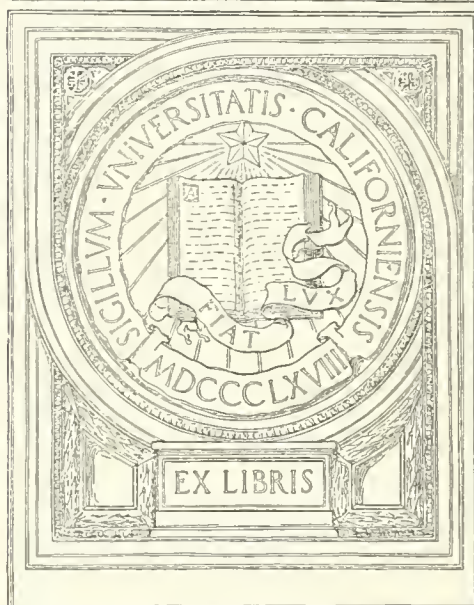






UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
AT LOS ANGELES



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*R. B. Burby*  
*2 Dec. 1806*

HISTORY  
OF ALL  
THE EVENTS AND TRANSACTIONS  
WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN  
INDIA:  
CONTAINING THE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
OF  
THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT,  
RELATIVE TO THE  
GLORIOUS SUCCESS OF THE LATE WAR.

Addressed to the Honorable SECRET COMMITTEE of the Honorable COURT OF  
DIRECTORS of the EAST INDIA COMPANY,

BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST NOBLE THE  
MARQUIS OF WELLESLEY,  
GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF INDIA,  
Esq. Esq. Esq.

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LONDON:  
PRINTED FOR JOHN STOCKDALE, PICCADILLY.  
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## P R E F A C E.

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I CANNOT feel an apology necessary for submitting any thing to the British Nation with the signature of the noble Author of the following Sheets. It would be a reflection on the National Sense to suppose, that the observations of a mind so comprehensive, and abilities so transcendant, should require an apology for being submitted to the Public. It is, however, necessary to account for his Secret Dispatches having obtained this publicity:—It will be in the recollection of every one, that his Lordship's dispatches fell into the hands of the French government, by the capture of the *Hope* East-Indiaman. Why they were not sunk, as is usual on such occasions, is, assuredly, a subject proper for the enquiry of higher powers. Napoleon Bonaparte, who has assumed the government of France, has thought these dispatches sufficiently important for publication in the *Moniteur*, his official paper. They were contained, in supplementary sheets, to the journal of the 5th. June, 1805, No. 256; so that they appear under the great disadvantage of the translation of a translation. No one, however, who is acquainted with the Marquis Wellesley, or his diction, will attribute any deficiency, in that respect, to the noble Governor. I believe I may claim the credit of having rendered it faithfully into intelligible English, and beyond that my ambition does not extend. His excellency's former production, giving an account of the military operations of the Mahratta War 1803, introduced by the most enlightened sketch of Indian History that has ever hitherto appeared, will be absolutely necessary in the perusal of this work, which has been printed uniformly with it. It contains also the Treaty of Bassein, upon which the whole of the subsequent disputes and negotiations are founded, and may be

considered as inferior, in interest, to no publication that has ever been submitted to gratify public anxiety and information.

There is a chasm in the following narrative of nearly seven paragraphs, contained in two sheets of his Lordship's MS. which were most probably mislaid after they were taken possession of by the French. The loss does not appear to be of very great moment, except as it leaves a chasm in any narrative by such a writer.

It was the Publisher's intention to have prefixed a Map of Indostan, but as it would have occasioned considerable delay, he relinquished it, as far as relates to the present occasion. He is, however, preparing a general Map, of sufficient size for the purposes of reference ; it will be published in the course of the present year. He promises that its accuracy shall not be inferior to any Map of India, on whatever scale, which may have preceded it ; and he wishes particularly to recommend it to the attention of those who peruse the following sheets, to which it will form a very desirable and requisite companion. It is not my intention to detain the Reader with any remarks, to which I feel wholly incompetent, upon the policy of the Governor-general's arrangements. They will speak for themselves, for nothing can exceed them in clearness and perspicuity. Any further observation would only tend to delay the consideration of what must excite the greatest interest ; and I shall, therefore, take my leave, after requesting the Reader's attention to a work which is not unlikely to command it.

JOHN JOSEPH STOCKDALE.

LONDON,  
22d August, 1805.



TO THE HONORABLE

**SECRET COMMITTEE**

OF THE HONORABLE

**COURT OF DIRECTORS.**

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*Fort William, 12th April, 1804.*

GENTLEMEN,

THE dispatches of the Governor General, and those of the Governor General in council, addressed to your honorable committee, under date of the 24th December, 1802, and the 10th February, 19th April, 20th June, 1st August, 25th September, 31st October, and 28th December, 1803, contain a general report of the events which have taken place in the Mahratta Empire, and which brought on the conclusion of a treaty of defensive alliance between the British government and the Peishwah. He now, in like manner, transmits what has succeeded that event, and the measures which have been adopted by the British government for the security and advantage of public affairs in all the changes of circumstances which have subsequently occurred. He acquaints you with the progress and brilliant success of the war which the British government has been compelled to enter into, by the violence, injustice, and ambition, of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and the rajah of Berar.

2. It has been impossible to transmit to your honorable committee detailed information on the subject of the events which have happened to the close of the war, as well as of the transactions and operations of the British government, which it was the duty of the Governor Ge-

neral in council to submit to your honorable Committee by the most favorable opportunity ; not only because the urgent and multiplied public affairs have made it impossible for us to prepare and digest the necessary papers, but because it was requisite for us to know the result of the various measures and transactions which were then about to be put in execution, to enable us fully to appreciate their importance, and to explain them so that they should be rendered clear and intelligible to your honorable Committee.

3. The Governor General in council considers that it now becomes his duty to comprehend, in a regular series, all the events and transactions which have occurred in India, together with the measures and operations of the British government, relative to the glorious successes of the last war. He at the same time feels himself bound to submit to your honorable Committee the details of those successes, as they are registered in the minutes of government : the Governor General in council consequently has the honor to transmit to your honorable Committee the detached series of the labors which have taken place in the secret department, from the 3d February 1803, to the 12th April 1804.

4. The conclusion of the treaty of defensive alliance between the British government and his highness the Peishwah must be considered as connected with the primitive causes of the last war with the confederate chiefs of the Mahratta Empire. For this reason, the Governor General in council thinks it proper to commence his report by a general view of the negotiations and transactions whereby this treaty was brought about.

5. Your honorable Committee is not ignorant of the efforts and the various means which the Governor General has long employed, under the sanction and approbation of your honorable Company, to main-



tain the alliance which subsisted between the honorable Company and the state of Poonah, in obtaining the consent of his highness the Peishwah to contract a subsidiary and defensive treaty with the British government. The negotiations of the resident at Poonah on this subject, have been repeatedly renewed and suspended, according as the bad state of his highness's affairs, and a sentiment of jealousy, worked upon that prince's weak and undecided character.

6. On the 30th November 1801, the Peishwah, who then exercised an authority merely nominal, limited, and precarious, in his states, under the ascendancy of his subjects, and of the members of his public administration, declared that he would consent to certain specific propositions founded on the basis of a general defensive alliance; but that he had not made up his mind with regard to several essential points contained in the propositions, which the Governor General had at first laid before him, so as to accede to them.

7. On this occasion the Peishwah consented to keep up, at his own expense, six battalions of British troops; provided they were not to remain in his highness's states, and that they were always ready to march at the requisition of the Peishwah. His highness further proposed to assign a territory in Indostan, for the support of the auxiliary forces. The propositions of his highness in respect to the decision of existing differences between his highness and the court of Hyderabad, and on the subject of excluding all Frenchmen from his service, differ in some points from those of the Governor General.

8. The acceptance, refusal, or modification, of these propositions, required the most mature reflection, and did not appear to demand an immediate decision. The Governor General consequently thought that it was material to wait the result of events in the Mahratta Em-

pire, before he came to any final decision upon the treaty of defensive alliance with the Peishwah.

9. With this view the Governor General delayed sending his instructions to the resident at Poonah, on the negotiation in question, until the month of June 1802. The Governor General in council then communicated, to the resident, his final determination with regard to the propositions of his highness the Peishwah, and furnished him with detailed instructions to regulate his conduct in the negotiation for an alliance between the British government and the state of the Peishwah.

10 In these instructions the Governor General entered into the detail of all that had passed between the British government and the state of Poonah, examined the conduct and policy of the latter towards the British government from the arrival of the Governor General in India, and concluded that, from the Peishwah's general conduct, his highness had not only shown himself uniformly and progressively jealous of the power of the British nation in India, but even an active enemy to its prosperity, in the greatest possible degree compatible with the safety of his highness's government, and always with that irresolution and timidity which characterised it; that, consequently, unless the Peishwah was compelled, by the critical situation of his affairs, to have recourse to the protection and assistance of the Company, he could never be engaged to enter into any accommodation, from the fear he had of furnishing the British government with the means of likewise acquiring an ascendancy over the Mahratta Empire. The Governor General therefore concluded that if the Peishwah's last propositions were sincere, they were only suggested by the hope of obtaining the assistance of the British power to re-establish and maintain his authority, without wishing to risk the foundation of that degree of British influence which it was the interest of the government to introduce into the Mahratta state, for the permanent security of the



Company and its allies, and for the general tranquillity of India, as well as for the entire exclusion of the influence of France.

11. The Governor General in council has therefore deemed it expedient to consider the propositions of his highness in this point of view ; and the result of a discussion, which he has had on the subject, is, that, in his excellency's opinion, to accede to the Peishwah's propositions would be rather prejudicial, than advantageous, to the British interest in India : thus the Governor General has determined to reject the propositions, such as they were, of the Peishwah.

12. Certain considerations, however, relative to the state of affairs in Europe and India, dispose the Governor General in council to relax from the conditions which his excellency had hitherto considered and declared indispensable to the conclusion of any subsidiary and defensive treaty with the Peishwah, rather than abandon the hope of establishing a closer connection with the state of Poonah. The Governor General resolved, in consequence, to acquiesce in the restriction proposed by the Peishwah, in regard to auxiliary forces, provided that the Peishwah would consent to furnish the subsidy in a manner more advantageous to our views and interests than an assignment of territory in Indostan would have been, against which the Governor General had, at that time, every kind of objection to make.

13. The resident at Poonah was charged to renew the negotiation with his highness the Peishwah, on the basis of the foregoing observations, for the purpose of concluding a treaty, subsidiary and defensive ; but, at the same time, to use every effort to bring it about on the conditions originally proposed, by the Governor General, to his highness, and not to accede to any others less beneficial, until he saw that there was no hope that the Peishwah would enter into the first proposition of the Governor General.

14. In the constitutions of the 23d June 1802, No. 95, will be found registered the instructions, a copy of which was comprised in the separate dispatch from the Governor General to your honorable Committee, dated the 24th December, 1802.

15. After having received those instructions at the end of July, the resident made known to the Peishwah, that the final determination of the Governor General upon the propositions communicated to the British government in the month of November preceding, had come to his hands.

16. This information was received by the Peishwah without his manifesting any desire to know the determination of the Governor General, and he deferred to another time the communication which the resident wished to make to him. Although Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, at the head of a numerous body of troops, then occupied a formidable position near Malligong, and had commenced a system of operations which threatened the Peishwah's power with imminent danger, his highness nevertheless appeared in no wise disposed to make a closer alliance with the British government. This circumstance may be, in some respects, attributed to the councils of Scindeah and the rajah of Berar; whose vakeels seriously dissuaded his highness from forming a more immediate alliance with the British government, and assured him of protection by the combined arms of those chiefs, and of the rainy season, which would not yet permit Holkar to undertake any important operation.

17. Notwithstanding, on the 1st August, Ruggonaut-Row, one of the Peishwah's ministers, waited upon the resident to make himself acquainted with what the latter was charged to communicate, on the means of establishing a more intimate alliance between the two states. The resident began his conference by saying that the Gover-

nor General was surprised that the Peishwah would not accede to the conditions which had been proposed to his highness; conditions fraught with generosity, and dictated by the desire of consolidating the existing connection between the two states: the resident added, that the Governor General had taken into consideration his highness's proposals on the subject of a defensive alliance, agreeably to the communication made to the late resident Colonel Palmer, in the month of November 1801, and had desired the actual resident to acquaint his highness the Peishwah with the final sentiments of the Governor General in regard to those propositions.

18. The resident further informed the minister, that the Governor General was perfectly of opinion, that the principles on which the defensive alliance with the state of Hyderabad was concluded, would form the most desirable basis of that which it was the intention of the Governor General to make with his highness the Peishwah. The resident afterwards specified the number of troops which his highness must engage to have constantly ready, and which the Governor General had judged necessary to attain the object of the defensive alliance.

19. The resident afterwards observed, relative to the manner of providing for the expences of the auxiliary forces, that the offer which his highness the Peishwah had made, to appropriate such a territory of Indostan as would produce an annual revenue of 25 lacks, was absolutely inadmissible; but he proposed the assignment of a territory northward of the Kokum, or on the southern frontiers which border on Tungbuddra.

20. The resident added, that as the offer of his highness could not be accepted, it became absolutely requisite that his highness should accede to this modification, before he made any communication of



the determination of the Governor General on the other articles contained in the Peishwah's propositions. The minister, however, insisted on the necessity of the previous communication of the sentiments and resolutions of the Governor General in respect to all the articles contained in the proposed arrangement; and, after some discussion on this point, the resident acceded to the minister's desire, and informed him of the first article, observing that the Governor General was disposed to relax from his first demand of the entire exclusion of all Europeans from the Peishwah's service, confining it to that of the subjects of all European states at war with the British government.

21. The resident gave the minister to understand, that the Governor General was firmly of opinion that the article concerning the change of the chout of Surat was equally to the interest of either party, and consequently that article might be concluded: that in regard to article 6, whereby the rajah of Berar was left at liberty to become a party in the defensive alliance; his highness having shown some disinclination thereto, the Governor General would consent to withdraw it.

22. The minister, in his answer to the resident, alluded to two other articles relating to the permanency of the auxiliary forces in his highness's states, and to the decision of the differences betwixt his highness the Peishwah, the Nizam, &c. After having noticed the resident's explanations on the subject of every article, he withdrew.

23. These explanations were communicated (21st February 1803, No. 20.) to the Peishwah; who, it is said, had repeated conferences with his ministers, during which the proposed defensive alliance was amply discussed: but the information obtained by the resident, in

regard to the real sentiments and resolutions of the Peishwah, justified the opinion of the idea which his highness was supposed to have, of not wishing to contract any alliance with the British government, so long as the least hope remained of his being able to avert the danger which menaced his government by the operations of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar.

24. The troops of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar were reinforced on the north bank of the river Bheema, and his highness the Peishwah relied wholly on the detachment of Scindeah's troops posted southward of the river Japtee to oppose the projects of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar. The only forces of the Peishwah which were at this juncture assembled for the protection of his highness, consisted of a detachment of 4000 cavalry and 1000 infantry, posted at Gardoon, on the river Bheema; and the refusal or the impossibility on his highness's part to advance the necessary funds, prevented the augmentation of his forces, which were thereby reduced to absolute inactivity; but the troops of Futteh-Sing-Mannia, an officer commanding a considerable part of the army of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, who occupied a position north of the Bheema, attacked those of the Peishwah, and compelled them to retire. His highness, owing to the general alarm occasioned by that event, ordered money to be advanced to the different chiefs commanding corps in his service, which engaged them to march under the standard of the empire, and to join the detachment which had fallen back from Gardoon.

25. The Peishwah's aim was to effect a junction of this detachment with the troops of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, commanded by Suddasher, then stationed in the province of Candesh, at some distance to the south of Japtee. His highness hoped that these combined troops, joined to those which he expected from the south, would be sufficiently strong to repulse the enemy.

26. On the 30th August (consultation 21st February, No. 28.) the resident was admitted to a conference with his highness the Peishwah on the subject of the propositions which had been communicated to him on the part of the resident through his highness's minister. From the result of this conference, a detail of which is inserted in the paper noted in the margin, it was obvious that the Peishwah was desirous of preserving the amity of the British government, but refused his consent to a defensive alliance upon the terms proposed by the resident; and that his highness's object was to prolong the negotiation, so as to be at liberty either to accept the aid of the British power, if occasion required it, or to give a definitive refusal to the proposed terms of alliance, when the stability of his highness's affairs would appear to render the succour of the British power unnecessary.

27. Whilst this negotiation was pending at Poonah, Scindeah and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar were getting in readiness for active operations, so soon as the rainy season was over. At the beginning of the month of September, 1802, Scindeah's troops took possession of a post on the northern bank of the Godavery, near Peyton, a town situated on the frontiers of the Nizam's states, and had begun to cross the river. Jeswunt-Row-Holkar advanced towards Suddasher's army: Bhou de Chandore, Meer-Khan, and Shad-Admed-Khan, who commanded considerable detachments of the army of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, waited its junction between Ahmednaggur and the Godavery. Futteh-Sing-Mannia continued ravaging the Peishwah's districts north of the Bheema, fifty miles from Poonah, but the Peishwah had thought of no measures to reinforce the detachment destined for the defence of the city.

28. Notwithstanding this hostile step of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, his vakeels continued to visit his highness the Peishwah at his durbar,



and, on the part of Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, to make demands which his highness could not condescend to grant.

29. They demanded that Kundeh-Row, son and heir of the late Mulhar-Row, the second legitimate son of the late Tuckojee-Holkar, who was kept in prison by Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, should be set at liberty and put in possession of his family territories, to the prejudice of Cufhy-Row-Holkar, the eldest legitimate son and successor to Tuckojee-Holkar, and that Jefwunt-Row-Holkar should be acknowledged guardian and divan of Kundeh-Row. It could not be expected that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah would accede to such unjust and degrading terms, except his affairs were extremely embarrassed, and that the Peishwah, supposing he were disposed to concur in these arrangements, had sufficient authority over Dowlut-Row-Scindeah to compel him to accept them. Scindeah's troops, under the command of Suddasher-Bhow, on which the Peishwah principally relied to defend his empire against the violence of Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, appeared by no means in a state to stand against that enterprising chief; and the Peishwah was destitute of military force, energy, and resources, sufficient to repel, effectually, the dangers to which the existence of his authority and his empire seemed exposed.

30. Those dangers increased from day to day. Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, after having sacked the city of Naffich, about the beginning of September, advanced south of the Godavery on the road from Poonah. Futteh-Sing-Mannia crossed the river Bheema, and succeeded in levying contributions in the neighbourhood of Punderperen; at the same time the conduct of Amrut-Row, the Peishwah's brother, who lived a short distance from Poonah, made his highness apprehensive lest his brother might take advantage of the critical situation of affairs at Poonah, and, owing to the progress of Jefwunt-Row-Holkar's arms, might become favourable to his elevation.

Suddasher-Bhow, who commanded Scindeah's troops, continued his march from Bourtranpoon, and arrived at Ahmednaggur without molestation from the troops of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar. From this place Suddasher-Bhow apprised the Peishwah that he had been ordered by Scindeah to demand the execution of the arrangements necessary for the continuance of his march towards Ahmednaggur, and afterwards to incline towards Poonah to assist his highness : that he should consequently soon be in a state to begin his march ; but that the pay of his troops was considerably in arrears, and that it was requisite that his highness should prepare funds to pay them. This state of affairs excited great alarm at Poonah : the inhabitants of the town feared, with reason, that the arrival of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar would be marked with every sort of outrage and violence ; and that the presence of Suddasher-Bhow's detachment, without the power of affording any protection, might still increase his highness's embarrassments, even to the point of compelling him to levy oppressive contributions on the city. Some of the rich inhabitants then began preparing to leave the capital ; and the Peishwah himself, perceiving the full extent of the difficulties and dangers which surrounded him, got ready to retire to the Kokum, and had relays of palanquin-bearers and detachments of horse placed on the road to the source of the Keistna, in the vicinity of Mhar.

31. He however afterwards relinquished that intention, by the advice of his ministers, who persuaded his highness that funds might be procured to pay Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's troops without incurring the risk of exciting any ferment ; and his highness, having determined to remain in his capital, dispatched a message to Suddasher-Bhow, pressing him to advance towards Poonah with the utmost possible speed.

32. Roused by these alarms, his highness the Peishwah sent, 20th September, 1802, his prime-minister to the resident, charged with a

packet containing his highness's propositions for a definitive treaty with the British government. These propositions differed in several points from those which the resident had made to his highness. The Peishwah required that the auxiliary forces should remain on the British territories, but that they should be at all times ready for every kind of service on which his highness might have occasion to employ them: that the British government should engage never to make any alliance nor to form any political connection with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, or the Rajah of Berar, with Holkar or the family of Guykwar, or with any Jaghirdar of the Mahratta empire; and that the British government should not interfere in the events which might happen between his highness and any of his chiefs: that his highness should be at liberty to make use of every class of Europeans in his service, dismissing those only who, during war between the British government and any other power, might appear to have acted contrary to the interests of the Company, and of the Peishwah: that the British government should be obliged to support every just claim that the Peishwah might have on any other power or state; and that the British government should not intermeddle with any transactions between the Peishwah and the Nizam, and should not be at liberty to arbitrate in the disputes which might arise between those states. These conditions, so different from the fundamental principles of the defensive alliance, and so incompatible with the connections which actually subsist between the British government and other powers, were necessarily rejected by the resident, who answered every article of the Peishwah's propositions by a memorial which the resident delivered to the minister during his conference of the 27th September. Copies of the papers in which the proposition of his highness are contained, and the resident's answers, together with the detailed report of his highness on the conference which he had with the minister, the above-mentioned day, will be found in the minutes noted in the margin.



33. The forces commanded by Suddasher-Bhow were to cross the river Bheemah, and continue their march to the environs of Poonah. These troops, after having reached Choomargoondah, changed their direction, and, advancing along the northern bank of that river, met Holkar's army, composed of detachments commanded by Meer-Khan and Shah-Ahmed ; and on the 3d October, 1802, an engagement took place, the result of which was reported to be somewhat equivocal. Another detachment of Holkar's troops, under the command of Futteh-Sing-Mannia, occupied a post south of Poonah ; and a body of troops of his highness the Peishwah, commanded by Nana-Poorrunduzzeh, and accompanied by Zuzzec-putkah or standard of the empire, was so disposed as to prevent the junction of the troops under Futteh-Sing-Mannia's orders with every other division of Holkar's troops. The army under the personal command of that chief then occupied a post about forty miles behind these troops.

34. The Peishwah in this situation continued to augment his troops, by requiring the assistance of the distant Jaghirdars and Suddasher-Bhow, who was expected soon to be reinforced by 5000 cavalry from Boorhampore, under the command of Gopaul-Bhow.

35. While the affairs of his highness the Peishwah were in this critical state, the resident continued to use every means of making known to his highness's ministers the advantage of acceding to the liberal propositions made by the British government. The resident laid hold of the opportunity to make the ministers of his highness remark that at the moment in which considerable progress had been made in a negotiation with the British power, the end of which was to re-establish his highness's authority and the tranquillity of his empire, his highness had, after mature reflection, adopted measures which could not but lay another burthen on the resources of his government,

and do away every hope of extricating himself from the present embarrassment of his affairs. The resident observed that the contending armies, dispersed over his highness's territory, friends or foes, were alike destructive to his resources, which were already inadequate to satisfy the immense necessities of the corps his highness had called in from the northern countries; that his incompetency to pay the troops would make yet more enemies; and add to the dangers which it was his interest to avert. The ministers answered that a prompt and advantageous negotiation should be concluded between his highness and the British government, and represented the situation of his highness's affairs in a more favourable point of view; adding, that they confidently expected the speedy reduction of Holkar's power, and the removal of the dangers and embarrassments which the resident had pointed out.

36. On the 8th of October, an action was fought, about forty miles from Poonah, between the troops of his highness the Peishwah, commanded by Nana Poorrunduzzeh, and those of Futteh-Sing-Mannia, in which the former were defeated with the loss of all their artillery and baggage.

37. This news greatly alarmed the Peishwah, and made him apprehensive of his personal safety. His highness gave immediate orders for the infantry on guard in his palace to be ready to march; but his real project in issuing the order was to have these troops for his escort in case they should be forced to abandon his capital. His highness directly sent his jewels to Sevaghur, a well-fortified place on a mountain near Poonah; and in the night of the 9th October, his highness made all the females of his family enter that fortress.

38. The resident did not fail to take advantage of this disaster, for the purpose of calling to the mind of his highness's ministers, with double

effect, the dangers in which his highness was involved, and the advantage which would accrue by his accepting the propositions of the British government. The ministers apparently embraced the resident's opinion, and declared that his highness's affairs could not be re-established but by his acceptance of the propositions of the British government, tending to conclude a defensive alliance with his highness. The ministers, however, added, that his highness the Peishwah was, in fact, under the influence and authority of his own subjects, and in the power of persons in place ; and that he had not the means of taking any measures to this end, without incurring personal danger. The minister appeared at the same time to flatter himself that these embarrassments would be soon removed, and that no further obstacle would be met with in carrying the projected alliance into effect.

39. The dangerous situation of his highness, which was daily increasing, however, removed all probability of such a hope. Holkar's troops had then formed a junction with those commanded by Futteh-Sing-Mannia, and occupied a post near the town of Segourie, above a march from Poonah : the army commanded by Suddasher-Bhow, in consequence, advanced and encamped according to the Peishwah's desire, at a short distance from the city, on the road from that place.

40. The state of Poonah and the adjacent territories, such as it was at this period, is described by the resident in the following terms:—  
“ I cannot depict to your excellency the dreadful scene which this city at the present moment affords ; the impositions to which it is subject are exacted with such rigour, that the inhabitants are flying towards the neighbouring mountains, in the hope of putting their property into a place of safety. On the road they are generally met by thieves, who add insult to pillage. These plundering bands carry their robberies to the very environs of the town. Agriculture and the cultivated lands are quitted ; the labourers cut the corn while yet half-



ripe, the only means which remain to them of saving some part of the harvest."

41. In the general confusion his highness the Peishwah remained in his palace, guarded by about 2000 foot and a corps of horse. Horses were saddled and kept constantly in readiness at the different gates; and every circumstance indicated the excessive alarm of his highness, and his intention to leave the city in case of any sinister event: and the wretched situation of his highness was further aggravated by the little confidence he had in his troops and adherents.

42. Suddasher-Bhow, fearing that the Peishwah might suddenly abandon the capital, and leave his troops without succour, and without pay, earnestly intreated his highness either to repair to the camp and accompany the army, or to permit two of Scindeah's battalions to be stationed at Poonah, in the absence of the army, at once to protect his highness's person and city. The Peishwah, however, rejected both proposals; and, as is the natural custom with Mahratta policy, sought to divert the impending danger by entering upon a negotiation with Holkar, (21st February, No. 47,) by means of Holkar's vakeel, who still continued to frequent the Durbar at Poonah.

43. In this state of things the minister proceeded in the negotiation with the resident, to conclude an alliance with the Company; but in terms so equivocal, with so many delays, and such evident subterfuges, that the resident was at length obliged to declare to the minister that he should, thenceforward, consider all negotiation at an end.

44. On the 23d of October, 1802, Jeswunt-Row-Holkar fixed his encampment about eight miles from that of Suddasher-Bhow. On the evening of the 24th, the Peishwah sent messengers to Jeswunt-

Row-Holkar, with some propositions for accommodation, which that chief refused; and in the morning of the 25th, an action took place between the two advanced armies, which terminated in a total defeat of the combined troops of the Peishwah and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah.

45. Holkar's troops consisted of twenty-eight battalions, fourteen of which were commanded by European officers, 500 Rohillas, 25,000 cavalry, and 100 pieces of cannon; Scindeah's forces were but four regular battalions, which had been raised and disciplined by Deboigne, twenty guns attached to those battalions, and 10,000 horsemen of the Rajah Ambagee: the precise number of the Peishwah's troops was not known.

46. The Peishwah, willing to be prepared against every occurrence, went out at the commencement of the battle, accompanied by Zur-rec-pattah, or standard of the empire, and all his other troops; and at the same time sent his minister to the resident with a writing sealed by his highness's own seal, containing his highness's consent to the terms of taking into his pay the proposed number of British troops, and to the engagement to cede to the honourable Company, for the subsistence of those troops, a territory in Guzzarat, or in the southern part of his highness's territory, (21st February, No. 96 or 49, A,) bringing in an annual revenue of twenty-six lacks of rupees. The minister at the same time assured the British resident in the most positive manner, that it was the Peishwah's intention to conclude a defensive alliance with the honourable Company on the basis of the treaty of Hyderabad.

47. In consequence of this transaction, the English resident judged it expedient to suggest to the right honourable governor of Fort St. George, and the honourable governor of Bombay, the necessity of

holding in readiness a body of troops under the respective authority of those presidencies, for the protection of the Peishwah's government, and the support of his authority.

48. The resident at Poonah transmitted a similar demand to the resident at Hyderabad, for him to hold in readiness a considerable detachment of troops which were stationed near his highness the Nizam.

49. At the conclusion of the battle between the two armies of Holkar and Scindeah, the Peishwah retired, with a small corps of cavalry, into a fortress in the environs of Poonah.

50. The town was left in the care of an officer of the Peishwah. No extreme violence was committed: his highness's minister and the English resident yet remained at Poonah, after having settled the plan of communication with the Peishwah in the Kokum, whereto his highness had retreated. The detail of these events will be found in the minutes (21st February, No. 56).

51. This critical state of affairs seemed to hold out a very favourable opportunity for establishing, in the most complete manner, the interests of the British power in the Mahratta empire. The Governor General was not deceived in his attempt when he reckoned on the peaceful issue of this important affair, towards which the attention of the British government had been so long since directed, and which was so material to the perfect respect for the British government in the East.

52. The Governor General, in consequence of this, determined to confirm the engagements concluded between the Peishwah and the resident at Poonah; and his excellency instructed the resident and charged him to signify to his highness the ratification of the Governor



General on the subject of that engagement, and his resolution to employ all the resources of the British power for the re-establishment of his highness's authority. The English resident was likewise charged to make the conditions of the proposed alliance more advantageous, and to exert himself to the utmost to obtain the Peishwah's consent to the stipulation which he had hitherto rejected; and, lastly, to demand such other concessions as should appear material to secure and immoveably fix the interests of the English government in that part of India. The resident was, besides, charged to lay hold on the most favourable opportunity to give the proposed conditions of alliance (21st February, No. 57) the form of a definitive treaty. These instructions, which bear date 10th November, 1802, are registered in the minutes.

53. Orders were at the same time given to the governors of Fort St. George and Bombay, (21st February, No. 225, A; and 252, A,) as well as to the resident at Hyderabad, confirming the requisition made by the resident at Poona, on the subject of collecting troops at the stations specified, with a view to fulfil the engagements concluded with the Peishwah.

54. In authorizing the assembling of the army of Fort St. George, Bombay and Hyderabad, the Governor General was guided by considerations independent of the mere end of upholding the cause of his highness the Peishwah.

55. In considering the actual state of the affairs of the Mahratta empire, the position, the number, and the formation, of the troops which compose the armies of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, and the desolated state of the Mahratta territories, it appeared almost certain that the troops of Holkar or of Scindeah, or of both together, as well as the whole horde of this professed partisan, would seek

for subsistence in the Nizam's, Guykwar's, Rajah's, or Myfore countries, or in those of the honourable Company.

56. It was consequently of moment to adopt prompt precautionary measures to secure the frontiers of the Company and its allies, against the incursions of those plundering armies.

57. The subsequent success and ascendancy of one of the two contending parties in the Mahratta empire, might induce the ambition, the pride, or the rapacity of its chief, to turn his victorious arms against the possessions of the Company or its allies; and the possibility of such an attempt equally required the immediate adoption of the measures taken to impede or repel such an enterprise. The Governor General had certain information that such were Holkar's projects, not merely with regard to the territories of our ally the Nizam, but to those of the Company in that part of India; and it would have been imprudent to neglect taking precautions in such a case.

58. The same precautions were indispensably necessary in respect of the general policy, which made it necessary to be prepared to avert the dangers of approaching anarchy. The re-establishment of the Peishwah in his legitimate authority, under the protection of a powerful British force, was the measure proper to divert every immediate danger to which the British government and its allies were exposed by the state of the affairs of the Mahratta empire, independantly of the general or permanent policy which required a closer tie with the Peishwah.

59. It appears from the resident's dispatches, that the primary object of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar was to get possession of the Peishwah's person, and to compel his highness to establish an administration which would give Jeswunt-Row-Holkar an ascendancy in the state, to the

exclusion of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's influence (21st February, No. 58, 59, 63). In case this project had failed, Jefwunt-Row-Holkar's second project was to make Aswent-Row, son of the late Rugonaud-Row, come to Poonah; to put the son of Amrut-Row on the Musnud; and to give Amrut-Row the place of prime minister, while Jefwunt-Row-Holkar should take the general command of the troops of the state.

60. From the reports which the Governor General received from the resident at Poonah on these points, and on others relative to the actual situation of affairs, his excellency deemed it necessary to give the resident instructions, (which will be found in the minutes of the 21st February, No. 64,) in regard to the period when it would be essential to order the British troops to advance to replace his highness the Peishwah in the government of Poonah.

61. By the resident's subsequent advices it appears that the Peishwah had made good his retreat to Mhar, a fort situated on the river Bancoole in the Kokum, and that Holkar despaired of succeeding to effect the voluntary return of the Peishwah to Poonah, and to prevail on his highness to put his person into his hands. It was equally apparent that Holkar had sent some forces to Jejoosy, a fort in the neighbourhood of Poonah, the actual residence of Amrut-Row, and had brought Amrut-Row to Poonah with the intention of entrusting to him the general administration of affairs, and of placing Amrut-Row's son on the Musnud, while Jefwunt-Row-Holkar proposed to take upon himself the general command of the army. Amrut-Row was not inclined to accede to this arrangement. The authority of the government was, notwithstanding, exercised by Holkar in the name of Amrut-Row. Jefwunt-Row-Holkar and Amrut-Row appeared to have great apprehensions lest the Peishwah should obtain the protection of



the British government, and made use of every means to engage the resident at Poonah to remain in that city, with the view of obtaining the protection of the British government, and its acquiescence with every arrangement which might be adopted after the exclusion of his highness the Peishwah from the government of Poonah. The resident, however, prudently rejected every advance of that nature, and persisted in the resolution he had formed of withdrawing to Bombay, for which residence he could not get leave, from Amrut-Row and Holkar, to set out, but with great difficulty. His departure was fixed for the 28th of November.

62. In the resident's conferences with Amrut-Row and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, the two chiefs testified an anxious desire to preserve the friendship of the British government, and addressed themselves directly and seriously, to the resident, to demand his advice on the then state of affairs. Jeswunt-Row-Holkar said expressly that he was desirous of the resident's mediation to bring about an accommodation with the Peishwah. The resident apprised Jeswunt-Row-Holkar that for this object it would be indispensably necessary that the two parties should consent to refer their disputes to the mediation of the British government; but that the resident could not undertake such a mediation without the orders of the Governor General. The resident at the same time counselled Amrut-Row and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar to come to a direct explanation with the Governor General. At the resident's last interview with Amrut-Row, that chief gave him three letters addressed to the Governor General: one was from himself; the others from persons then exercising the functions of ministers of state. The aim of these letters was to solicit the protection of the British government, and the appointment of a resident in the place of Colonel Close, whose departure from Poonah for Bombay was considered by Amrut-Row and his ministers as an abdication of his place as representative of the British government at the court of Poonah.

63. The detail of the transactions of Poonah and of the conferences and communications which took place between the resident at Poonah and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, and Amrut-Row, may be found in the minutes of the 21st February, No. 104, 105, 106, and 111 to 119 both inclusive, and 135 and 136.

64. The measures adopted by the government of Bombay on the requisition of the resident, to have troops always in readiness for the service of the Peishwah, are given at length in a dispatch of that presidency entered among the above-mentioned minutes.

65. After the Peishwah's arrival at Mhar, his highness sent two vakeels to Bombay, with a letter, in which he demanded an asylum at Bombay, and likewise a vessel to transport him from Bancoole to Bombay or Bassein, in case that measure were considered necessary for the safety of his person. The honorable governor of Bombay granted the latter demand, and ordered the Herculean to go to Bancoole, and there receive the Peishwah.

66. The resident at Poonah being informed of these circumstances, pointed out, to the government of Bombay, the advantage that would arise in dissuading the Peishwah from seeking an asylum in the territories of the British government, until the sentiments and views of the Governor General, in regard to the Peishwah's affairs, were made known; and the resident advised that the Peishwah should be prevailed on to maintain himself in his position at Mhar to the last extremity, so long as his personal security could justify it.

67. The measures which the Bombay government adopted conformably to the resident's suggestion, as well as the communications which took place between his highness and the resident at Fort Victoria, according to the instructions of the government of Bombay,

are detailed in the government dispatches, and entered in the minutes noted in the margin.

68. From the resolution which the Governor General had taken to use every effort to restore the Peishwah's authority, and from the actual state of affairs, it appeared to the Governor General extremely advantageous for the Peishwah to throw himself, immediately, on the British power for protection, by retiring to Bombay. The considerations which decided the Governor General, in council, on this head, are given, at length, in the instructions, which the Governor General, deeply impressed with this idea, sent, on the 29th November 1802, to the resident at Poonah, and which are entered on the minutes before specified. Instructions were, at the same time, forwarded to the administration of Bombay, concerning the reception of his highness the Peishwah, and the conduct to be pursued towards him, in regard to the relations which were, from that time, supposed to exist between his highness and the British government. The communication made, to his highness the Peishwah, by the honorable government of Bombay, on receipt of those instructions, is registered in the minutes noted in the margin.

69. His highness the Peishwah being apprehensive for his safety at Mhar withdrew to Sevendroog, a fortress on the side of the Kokum; his highness embarked there on board the Herculean, disembarked, and remained some days at an intermediate port, and thence re-embarked, and arrived safe at Bassein on the 16th of December. The resident from Poonah reached Bombay on the 3d of the same month.

70. The resident at Poonah received the instructions of the Governor General, dated the 16th November, on the 6th December 1802, and, in consequence, addressed a letter to Raggonaut-Row, his high-



ness's minister, soliciting a conference with him, and urging the departure of his highness the Peishwah for Bombay.

71. On the 30th December the Governor General ordered a letter to be forwarded to the resident, to express his satisfaction at all parties concerned in the commotions of the Mahratta state having appealed to the British power, observing, that this circumstance afforded a favorable opportunity for a pacific mediation.

72. As it was probable that the Peishwah would endeavor to avoid concluding a definitive treaty, and would prefer Scindeah's assistance to that of the British government, the resident was charged to give his highness to understand, that, as the Governor General had ratified the preliminaries, and continued to act in consequence, his highness's refusal to conclude a definitive treaty on that basis, and to adhere to its stipulations, would be considered a violation of public faith, and, that in such case, his excellency would pursue those measures of policy which would be conducive to the security of the British government and its allies; and that a demand for the reimbursement of all expenses incurred for the Peishwah's service would form part of that system of measures which, in this view, would be adopted.

73. On the 8th December the resident had an interview with Raggonau'-Row. That minister imparted his highness's resolution to fulfil his engagements, his intention to go from Chout to Bassain, and the desire he had to remain in the latter place under the protection of a British guard. Mr. Duncan answered, that this demand should be complied with, and informed him that the force should consist of 100 European infantry, a company of European artillery, with a complement of Misket gunners, and about 600 spahis.

On the arrival of his highness the Peishwah at Bassain, the resident waited on his highness with the project of a treaty of defensive alli-

ance, to which, after some moments of discussion, his highness assented. There was, notwithstanding, a difference of opinion between the Peishwah and the resident, in regard to the territories to be set apart for the payment of the auxiliary forces, which occasioned some delay in the conclusion of a treaty of defensive alliance.

74. The resident in the meanwhile transmitted, to the Governor General, a copy of the proposed treaty, on receipt of which, the Governor General sent instructions to the resident, containing his excellency's remarks on the proposed treaty, and his instructions to urge its conclusion, according to certain modifications which those instructions pointed out.

75. However, on the 28th January, he received a dispatch from the resident, which reported, that, at an audience of the Peishwah, on the 31st December, his highness had unexpectedly given his consent to the assignment of those territories which the resident was charged to demand for the pay of the auxiliary troops, and the treaty was, consequently, concluded and exchanged at that conference.

76. The terms of the treaty being in strict conformity to the tenor of the first propositions made by the Governor General to his highness the Peishwah, and to the spirit of the subsequent instructions, addressed by the Governor General to the resident at Poonah, the treaty was ratified by the Governor General in council the same day on which it was received. Several copies of the treaty having been already transmitted to your honorable committee, the Governor General in council considers it superfluous under those circumstances to repeat the details.

77. The Governor General in council will now take a view of the measures pursued by the right honorable lord Clive, Governor of Fort

St. George, in consequence of what has been suggested to his excellency by the Poonah resident, to keep a corps of British troops in the Carnatic, ready to march immediately to the assistance of his highness the Peishwah, as has been already stated in the foregoing paragraph.

78. The forces which the right honorable governor of Fort St. George, in concert with General Stuart, resolved to collect on the frontiers of the Myfore, were to consist of five companies of artillery, two European and five native regiments of cavalry; three regiments and six companies of European infantry, and eight battalions of native infantry, with field artillery in proportion. The motives which engaged his excellency to set on foot such an army, are contained in a dispatch from his excellency, the 10th December, and appear to be well founded; and the measures adopted on that occasion by the right honorable governor of Fort St. George, seeming to the Governor General not less politic, met, in like manner, with his approbation.

79. Lord Clive had very properly considered that the body of troops which it was necessary to march into the Mahratta territory, for the aid of the Peishwah, with the view of fulfilling our defensive engagements, must be of such a force as to be able to act independently, and resist the armies of Holkar and Scindeah, whether separate or united. Lord Clive likewise thought it probable that the renewal of hostilities with those chiefs in the Dekkan would be the means of collecting so immense a number of irregular troops, that, from the exhausted state of the Mahratta territories, they would be compelled to violate the frontiers of the states of the Nizam, those of the ceded countries, or those of the Myfore, in seeking the means of subsistence. In either of these two events the right honorable governor of Fort St. George judged it expedient to hold in readiness a force, not inferior to that which his excellency, in concert with General Stuart, had resolved to assemble. At the same time, the circum-



stances of which his excellency made mention in his written dispatches on this subject, and those mentioned in the instructions of the Governor General to his excellency, dated 30th December 1802, removed every fear of hostilities taking place in the face of so considerable an English force on the Mahratta frontiers.

80. Lieutenant General Stuart neglected no means, according to the order of the Governor of Fort St. George, to advance his army towards the Mahratta territories, in case that the negotiation, which was to be carried on by the resident at Poonah, for the conclusion of a treaty of defensive alliance with his highness the Peishwah, should render that measure necessary. Lord Clive, at the same time, according to the instructions of the Governor General, ordered the honorable Major General Wellesley, who commanded the auxiliary forces stationed in the Mysore, to encourage, by all possible means the dispositions which the Jaghirdars of the southern countries of his highness the Peishwah had manifested, conjointly with the British government, to support his highness's cause.

81. The details of these operations, as well as the instructions, of different dates, given by the Governor General in council to the right honorable Governor of Fort St. George, concerning the measures then in question, are in the registers noted in the margin.

#### HYDERABAD.

82. The Governor General now deems it expedient to draw the attention of your honorable committee to the affairs of Hyderabad, as connected with the transactions and operations at Poonah.

83. The nature of the instructions given to the resident at Poonah, dated 23d June, 1803, required that similar instructions should be

given to the resident at Hyderabad. From the reasons assigned in the instructions addressed to the resident at Poona, the Governor General thought it might be advantageous to accede to a modification of the conditions prescribed by the treaty of Hyderabad, concluded on the 12th October 1800, by admitting the Peishwah to the advantages of a defensive alliance. These conditions were, that the Peishwah should consent to throw himself on the decision of the Company for any disputes which might arise between the court of Hyderabad and that of Poona, conformably to the treaty of Mhar, and that the Peishwah should also consent that his highness the Nizam should be exempt from the payment of the Chout.

84. It was necessary to obtain the consent of his highness the Nizam for a modification of those conditions ; and instructions were consequently forwarded to the resident at Hyderabad, to set every engine at work to accomplish it. These instructions are registered in the labour No. 90. Consultation of the 23d June, 1802.

85. The first conference on this subject at Hyderabad took place in the month of October following ; the resident, as had been foreseen, found the court of Hyderabad extremely adverse to the concession required. The resident, however, after a discussion of long duration, (No. 56, conference of the 3d February 1803,) succeeded in obtaining the consent of his highness the Nizam, to a modification of the conditions, by which the Peishwah was admitted to the advantages of the defensive alliance, according to certain assurances from the British government. These assurances appeared to the Governor General to be of a nature that could not be confirmed ; but that difficulty was removed by the subsequent success of the resident at Poona, in obtaining the consent of his highness the Peishwah, on the conditions prescribed by the treaty of Hyderabad, to his admission to the advantages of the defensive alliance. The instructions of the

Governor General on this point are registered in the consultation No. 260, 21st February.

86. In receiving from the resident at Poonah the demand which was made, of having a force ready on the frontiers of the Nizam's empire, the object of which would be to serve as a support to the cause of the Peishwah, the resident of Hyderabad prudently suggested to his highness the Nizam, the advantage of reinforcing the detachments of his highness's troops, stationed westward of his frontiers. His highness immediately acceded to the demand.

87. In the instructions of the Governor General to the resident at Hyderabad, on the 16th November, by confirming the requisition of the resident at Poonah, as to the instantaneous preparation of a British force, and a subsequent letter and instruction dated 22d November 1802, the Governor General gave orders that the officer commanding the British army, which was to be sent from Hyderabad to the frontiers, should obey the orders of the resident at Poonah, as to the march of the detachment.

88. Before that period, the court of Hyderabad had frequently expressed an anxious desire to receive the two battalions of spahis, which, by the treaty of October 1800, were to be added to the auxiliary forces. Different circumstances had occasioned and justified the delay which had retarded the junction of that additional force. The state of affairs, however, imperiously required that the subsidiary forces should be completed as speedily as possible, whether by its reference to military points, or to other local considerations, and possible circumstances. That augmentation was to consist of an European regiment, instead of the two battalions of spahis. The resident at Hyderabad, therefore, proposed to the court of Hyderabad that a regiment of Europeans should be substituted for the additional batta-



lions of spahis, stipulated by the treaty, and with some difficulty obtained its consent to those arrangements. Pending the issue of the resident's negotiations on this subject, instructions were given by the Governor General to the right honourable governor of Fort St. George, 30th December 1802, by which Lord Clive had been desired to be ready to send an European regiment to Hyderabad, upon the resident's requisition. These instructions, together with the corresponding orders of the same date (No. 125, D, conference of the 21st February) to the resident at Hyderabad, are registered in the proceedings. Conference 252.

89. After the defeat of the Peishwah's and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's combined forces, by Jeswunt-Row-Holkar's troops, that chief, and Amrut-Row, addressed letters to his highness the Nizam, and to his minister Aazim-Aol-Omrah, soliciting the support and protection of the court of Hyderabad, in favor of the revolution projected in the government of the Mahratta empire. The court of Hyderabad, in conformity to its engagements, communicated these overtures to the British resident, and declared its intention to act wholly under the guidance of the British government, in regard to these overtures. The court of Hyderabad, however, having no regard to the principles of equity and justice which form the basis of the operations of the British government, has given some proofs of its disposition to support the cause of the usurper. The object of this policy was to secure to his highness the Nizam, the advantages which would have resulted to him from the administration of Poonah; advantages which the court of Hyderabad feared it could not attain, if the projected alliance took place with the Peishwah.

90. Jeswunt-Row-Holkar and Amrut-Row, afterwards notified their intention to send Baboo-Furkia, son of the late Hurry-Punt-Furkia, to Hyderabad, charged with private overtures. It was

uncertain whether this emissary would be received. The question was referred for decision, from the Court of Hyderabad, to the Governor General, who was of opinion, that, by refusing to receive that emissary, it would hold out the resolution to oppose the views and interests of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, as well on the part of the British government, as on that of his highness the Nizam, which would by no means be in unison with the desire of the Governor General, to appease the troubles existing in the Mahratta empire, by means of an amicable negotiation; and that as to the accomplishment of this object, all parties would be encouraged to appeal thereon to the united councils of the British government and his highness the Nizam. The Governor General was therefore of opinion, that the emissary sent by Jeswunt-Row-Holkar should be received at Hyderabad. His excellency's detailed instructions of the 18th January, 1803, are registered in the minutes of the 23d February, No. 260, B.

91. As to the detail of all the transactions of Hyderabad, connected with the affairs of the Mahratta empire, the substance of which is collected in the preceding paragraphs, the Governor General in council refers your honourable committee to the resident's dispatches, noted in the margin, and to the sentiments and instructions of the Governor General, which had been given in consequence of the correspondence of the resident, relative to the situation of the affairs of the Mahratta empire, and which are registered in the minutes of the following date.

92. The Governor General in council considers it proper to give an account of the measures adopted in consequence of the conclusion and ratification of the defensive treaty of alliance with his highness the Peishwah.

93. It is certain, that the principal branches of the Mahratta state, had always been averse to an alliance between the British go-

vernment and the sovereign power of the Mahratta empire. It was also evident that the Peishwah had only entered into the treaty of defensive alliance with the British government, because his highness was convinced that he had no other way of recovering any part of his just authority, or of maintaining the tranquillity of his empire. The state of his highness's affairs, consequently, taking a favourable turn, his highness, supported by the sentiments of the different branches of the Mahratta empire, would be desirous of annulling the engagements he had made with the British government.

94. Under such circumstances it was not the intention of the Governor General to compel the Peishwah to fulfil his engagements scrupulously, at the risk of involving the Company in a war with the combined Mahratta states, to carry into effect his ideas for making use of the influence of the British power to re-establish the Peishwah upon the Musnud of Poonah, on the basis of the auxiliary treaty recently concluded with his highness. The Governor General thought it material to pay attention to the principles by which his excellency had been guided. Those principles were, to maintain peace with the Mahratta states, and to preserve the internal tranquillity of the British possessions:

95. The stipulations of the treaty on which his excellency founded his intention of facilitating the re-establishment of the Peishwah's power, proceeded from the supposition that the majority of Mahratta Jaghirdars, and the great mass of the people, would co-operate in that measure. Justice and policy forbid every attempt to give the Mahrattas a chief to whom the authority would not have been restored with the assent of all classes of his subjects. The construction of the treaties lately concluded with the Peishwah, did not impose such an obligation, and it was evident, whatever might have been the success of our arms, the views of those treaties could not have been accomplished by so extreme and violent a policy; his excellency the Governor



General consequently resolved to abandon every endeavor to restore the Peishwah to the Musnud of Poonah, in case of opposition on the part of the majority of the Jaghirdars, and the mass of the subjects of the Peishwah.

96. The Governor General moreover considered, that, though even the Jaghirdars should decide to lend it their support, it would be advisable to advance a detachment of the English army towards the Mahratta territories; but if the whole English army collected at Hurry-haul were advanced towards the Mahratta territory, it would greatly diminish the internal safety of the Company's possessions in that part of India, and such a movement would consequently not accord with the principal object of that event.

97. With the view therefore of fulfilling our engagements with the Peishwah, without losing sight of the above mentioned objects, the Governor General was of opinion :

1st. That all the auxiliary forces which were near his highness the Nizam, should join the Nizam's troops assembled on the western frontiers of his states, and all that army should occupy the most advantageous station on his territory and the nearest to Poonah, and that it should be held in readiness to march, at a proper season, directly towards that capital.

2d. That so great a portion of the British army assembled at Hurry-haul, which might be detached, nevertheless always taking care of the internal security of the British territories, should march in concert and union with the Mahratta chiefs and Jaghirdars, occupying the southern frontiers of the Mahratta territory, which would be attached to the Peishwah's cause; and that the rest of the British army should preserve its position on the frontiers of the Myfore, for the protection of the ad-

vanced detachment, and to maintain the internal tranquillity of the Company's territory.

- 3d. That the advanced detachment should go from Hurry-haul with the Mahratta forces which might join it there, either to Merriteh, or to any other place where the Peishwah might unite with this detachment, and that the one from Hurry-haul should form a junction with the combined army of the Nizam, and the auxiliary troops of the British government, on the frontiers of the Nizam's empire.

98. The instructions, at length, of the Governor General, 2d Feb. 1803, No. 247, founded on the preceding observations, are registered in the minutes of the 21st February 1803.

99. Copies of those instructions were transmitted to the residents at Poonah and Hyderabad. The resident at Poonah was charged to follow, for the future, in his operations, the spirit of the resolutions and intentions described in those instructions, as far as they should be applicable to the different situations in which he might be placed. The Governor General left it to the judgment of the resident at Poonah to determine the period proper for the advance of the army from the place which it occupied on the Nizam's frontiers towards Poonah; and the resident at Poonah has been advised that the officer commanding the auxiliary forces would be obliged to conform to his suggestions either as to the time at which he should begin his march from the frontiers of the Nizam's state towards Poonah, or to any other point, which might have reference to the destination of that force.

100. The detailed instructions of the Governor General to the resident at Poonah, dated 3d February 1803, are registered in the minutes 21st February 1803, No. 208. Instructions were at the same time given to the resident at Hyderabad, whereby he was charged to obtain

the consent of his highness the Nizam, to permit all the army of the auxiliary forces to pass through his highness's domains, in going upon the frontiers to join his highness's forces stationed in that part, agreeably to the plan of operations communicated to the government of Fort St. George. The resident at Hyderabad was, besides, enjoined to concert with the resident at Poonah the position which it would be the most advantageous for the united army to occupy on the Nizam's frontiers, before it advanced towards Poonah, and the resident at Hyderabad was charged to order the officer commanding the auxiliary forces to conform to all the orders which he might receive from the resident at Poonah.

101. The instructions of the resident at Hyderabad, the substance of which is stated in the preceding paragraphs, are registered in the minutes of the 21st of February 1803, No. 269.

102. The governor now continues his report to your honorable committee, of the measures adopted by the right honorable Lord Clive, according to the instructions of the 2d February, the substance of which is related in the 92d and following paragraphs.

#### FORT ST. GEORGE.

103. By those instructions the right honorable Governor General of Fort St. George, aided by the judgment of Lieutenant-general Stuart, and directed by the events which might occur, was authorized to determine the time at which it would be best to advance the British troops towards the Mahratta frontiers, and in like manner to point out the number of the forces which were to be detached from the first body of the army on that service.



104. In paying attention to the advantage it would be of to secure, betimes, the arrival of the British troops at Poonah, and to confirm the favourable disposition manifested by the Jaghirdars in the southern territories of his highness the Peishwah, as well as the actual march of the auxiliary forces towards the western frontiers of the Nizam, and considering the necessity of putting an end to the negotiations with the utmost possible speed; Lord Clive was of opinion that the moment had arrived in which it was necessary for the British troops to enter the Mahratta territory, and his excellency, in consequence, on the 27th February, charged his excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart, then present with the army on the Myfore frontiers, to adopt the requisite measures on this head.

105. Lieutenant-general Stuart being absent from the presidency of Fort St. George, Lord Clive judged it necessary that the extent of the forces to be detached from the bulk of the army, should be exclusively determined by Lieutenant-general Stuart, he always referring to the general sense of the instructions of the Governor General, 2d February.

106. The great local knowledge and influence of Major-general Wellesley; the correspondence so long established between Major-general Wellesley and the Mahratta chiefs on the frontiers of the Myfore, and the confidence those chiefs had in the approved talents, firmness, character and integrity of that officer, gave him all the titles necessary to acquit himself of the complicated duties of the command of the detachments destined to go to Poonah. This important command required the united efforts of great knowledge in the military art, great political experience, and no little discretion. Lord Clive, on this account, wished Major-general Wellesley to be appointed to command the detachments which had already set off, and begged his excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart to give to Major-general Wellesley instruc-

tions for the regulation of his conduct, agreeably to the meaning of the instructions of the Governor General.

107. Conformably to the preceding orders, Lieutenant-general Stuart appointed a detachment from the main body of the army, and issued orders for it to assemble at Hyderabad, to advance upon the territory of the Mahrattas. The detachment was composed of a regiment of European and three of native cavalry; two regiments of European infantry, and six battalions of native infantry, with a force of artillery in proportion: the whole amounting to 1500 cavalry, and 6800 infantry. This army was joined by 2500 horse of his highness the Rajah of Myfore. Lieutenant-general Stuart appointed the honourable Major-general Wellesley to the command of this detachment agreeably to Lord Clive's desire.

108. Lieutenant-general Stuart charged the honorable Major-general Wellesley,

- 1st. To encourage the southern Jaghirdars to declare in favor of the cause of the Peishwah; to employ every means to extinguish their mutual animosity, and to induce them to unite their forces with the detachment advancing towards them for the re-establishment of his highness's government.
- 2d. To advance towards Merriteh, and to form a junction with the Peishwah; or if it was thought useless or impossible, for his highness to direct his march towards that place, then to unite with such of his highness's chiefs and troops as might be collected there.
- 3d. To open a communication and form a junction with the auxiliary forces from Hyderabad, and with the contingent of his highness the Nizam.
- 4th. To go, at all events, to Poonah, and to establish in that capital an order of things favorable to the Peishwah's return, and to

the accomplishment of the tenor of the treaty lately concluded between his highness and the British government.

109. The detail of the preceding arrangements is contained in the dispatches of the right honorable Lord Clive, registered in the minutes of the 7th March 1803, No. 10, 16, 18 and 20.

110. The Governor General in council, on the 4th of April, addressed a letter to the government of Fort St. George, wherein he approved of the measures laid down by his excellency, and by Lieutenant-general Stuart, and of the choice of the honorable Major-general Wellesley to command the troops sent to Poonah; and the letter also included instructions relative to the Mysore government, as well as to the arrangements which had been adopted by the immediate authority of the government of Fort St. George.

111. Your honourable committee has been informed by the letter from the Governor General, of the 10th February 1803, that Mr. Webbe had been appointed resident at Nagpore, and Major Malcolm had replaced the former resident at Mysore. The reasons which suggested the utility of this arrangement, with reference to the state of the affairs of the Mahratta empire, have been assigned in the instructions addressed to the right honourable governor of Fort St. George, on that subject, dated 3d February. They are registered in the minutes of the 21st February 1803, No. 248. After having received those instructions, the right honorable governor of Fort St. George, adopted the measures necessary for carrying them into execution, and his excellency at the same time gave separate instructions to his excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart and Major Malcolm, in regard to the means of keeping up a correspondence with the Jaghirdars in the southern districts of the Peishwah's states. These instructions, together with the answers of Lieutenant-general Stuart and Major Malcolm



are registered in the minutes of the 9th March 1803, No. 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28.

112. Conformably with those instructions Major Malcolm accompanied the honourable Major-general Wellesley in his march towards Poonah, and assisted that officer in his negotiations with the Jaghirdars and officers of the Mahratta government in the southern divisions of the states of his highness the Peishwah.

### HYDERABAD.

113. It is here necessary to give a narrative of the operations of the resident at Hyderabad in consequence of the instructions which had been given him 3d February, and to which the 101st paragraph refers, as having tended to the plan of operations above mentioned.

114. The resident at Hyderabad, impressed with the views of the Governor General in respect to the movement to be made by all the auxiliary forces to get forward, solicited and obtained the consent of his highness the Nizam to advance the whole force; but he, at the same time, communicated the objections his highness had made against that measure, which would leave his person and the capital without adequate protection. In answer to this communication, the Governor General, in his instructions to the resident, 6th March 1803, signified that although the terms of his excellency's instructions admitted the resident's construction of them, it was not his excellency's intention to order the adoption of such measures as would leave the city of Hyderabad naked of British troops. The Governor General, however, foreseeing all the hazard to which the British interest at Hyderabad might be exposed by the absence of those troops, has not judged it expedient to give positive orders for the recal of the two bat-

talions to Hyderabad, in order to leave them near the person of his highness the Nizam, in compliance with the stipulation of an article of the treaty of Hyderabad. The Governor General left this point to the discretion of the resident at Hyderabad, who was, however, to have reference to the Nizam's desires. The Governor General at the same time gave his opinion on the subject of a better method of supplying the deficiency of British troops at Hyderabad; which was, to send a detachment from the army assembled on the frontiers of the Myfore. His excellency, in consequence, made known to the resident his intention of giving provisional instructions to that effect, to the government of Fort St. George.

115. In conformity to that intention, the Governor General addressed a letter, dated 6th March 1803, to the right honourable governor of Fort St. George, praying his excellency to represent to Lieutenant-general Stuart the propriety of giving orders to a detachment composed of two battalions of native foot to go to Hyderabad, provided that this measure were compatible with the other military arrangements.

116. His excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart having consented to the suggestion, two battalions were detached from the main body of the army stationed on the frontiers of the Myfore, and reached Hyderabad at the end of the month of April.

On the 17th February, the whole auxiliary army, commanded by Lieutenant-colonel Stevenson, marched from Hyderabad towards the frontiers of the Nizam's states, for the purpose of forming a junction with the army of his highness the Nizam, and occupying a preparatory position for the Nizam's army, which was on its march to enter the Mahratta territory. On the 26th March, the auxiliary troops of Great Britain, conjointly with the Nizam's contingent, commanded by Colonel Stevenson, encamped in the vicinity of

Perinda, near the western frontiers of the Nizam; and on the 15th April arrived at Ockloor, where they were reinforced by his Majesty's Scotch brigade, detached from Major-general Wellesley's army, and afterwards by that general's grand army.

117. The detail of the correspondence of the resident at Hyderabad with the commanding officer of the auxiliary forces, and the resident at Poonah, according to the instructions of the Governor General, 3d February, will be found registered in the consultation of the 29th May and 22d June, 1803.

118. Before entering upon the operations of Major-general Wellesley, as directed by the instructions of his excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart, and the substance of which is related in the 111th paragraph, it is right to communicate to your honourable committee, in general terms, the progress of our affairs at the court of Hyderabad, connected with those of the Mahratta empire, up to the time of the Peishwah's return to Poonah.

119. The 90th paragraph of this dispatch speaks of the intention of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar and Amrut-Row to send Baboo-Furkeen on a mission to the court of Hyderabad. It likewise contains the substance of the instructions of the Governor General to the resident at Hyderabad, relative to the reception of that emissary. On the 24th February Baboo-Furkeen arrived at Hyderabad: the principal object of his mission was, apparently, to endeavour to detach his highness the Nizam from an alliance with the British government, and re-unite the Nizam with Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, for the purpose of carrying into execution the plan which Jeswunt-Row-Holkar had formed for the future administration of the government of Poonah. His highness the Nizam, however, declared, in an unequivocal manner, the determination he had made to co-operate with the British



government to replace the Peishwah in the exercise of his legitimate authority. Baboo-Furkeen, being foiled in his attempt to gain the object of his mission, delivered to his highness the Nizam a specification of the demands of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar and Amrut-Row. These demands did not materially differ from those presented in writing, at different times, to the resident at Poonah. The court of Hyderabad replied, in answer to the demands of Baboo-Furkeen, that the close connexion established between the British government and the state of Hyderabad rendered the previous consent of the Governor General indispensably necessary, before any decision could be made on the proposals of Baboo-Furkeen: that a negotiation of this nature was exclusively confided by the Governor General to the resident at Poonah: but that the propositions and demands submitted by the Mahratta envoy should be communicated to the Governor General, that he might take them into consideration.

120. The instructions of the Governor General to the resident at Poonah, 11th February, on the subject of Holkar's demands, appeared to his excellency applicable to the propositions of the Mahratta envoy at Hyderabad. The Governor General, therefore, deemed it useless to give any other instruction on the subject.

121. The detail of Baboo-Furkeen's negotiations at Hyderabad is contained in the papers of the 9th May, No. 183, 198, 199, 200, 207, 208, 212, 213, 214, 243, 248, 276; and of the 22d June, No. 72, 87, 90.

122. The communications which the Governor General received at this period from the resident at Hyderabad, concerning the news transmitted by the agent of his highness the Nizam to the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, or obtained by other channels, and particularly the news of the arrival of Jadnow-row, the confidential minister

of Scindeah to the court of the rajah of Berar, and that of the continuation of the warlike preparations in the states of the rajah of Berar, gave the Governor General in council some reasons to suspect the existence of a confederacy (which has since been brought to light) between Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, against the interests of the British government and its allies. The rajah of Berar had himself testified, in a letter addressed to the Nizam, his entire disapprobation of the conclusion of the treaty of Bassein; and, by the recall of his vakeels from the court of Hyderabad, he further manifested his sentiments and intentions.

As to the detail of the circumstances and communications which his highness the Nizam had with the rajah of Berar and Scindeah, and which, on the Nizam's part, were wholly conducted according to the true meaning of the Nizam's alliance with the British government, we shall refer your honourable committee to the series of dispatches from the resident at Hyderabad, registered in the proceedings of the 9th May and 22d June, 1803.

#### MAJOR-GENERAL WELLESLEY.

123. The Governor General in council is now about to submit to your honourable committee Major-general Wellesley's operations, according to the instructions of Lieutenant-general Stuart, the tenor of which instructions is contained in the 108th paragraph of this dispatch.

124. Major-general Wellesley, on the 9th March, left Hurrighur, on the frontiers of the Mysore, and on the 12th crossed the river Tumbuddra. The approach of the British troops, and their march across the southern countries of the Peishwah, engaged the chiefs and Jaghirdars, at variance with each other, to lay their quarrels aside;

whilst, on the other hand, the oppressed inhabitants of those ruined territories were thereby re-animated. Major-general Wellesley, favoured by every class of inhabitants, who all entertained the same sentiments of respect for the British government, and were equally desirous for the success of the cause in which it was engaged, had it in their power to give the army great assistance throughout its whole march. This favourable impression must be principally attributed to the personal confidence of the chiefs, as well as the inhabitants, in the ability, justice, and honour, of Major-general Wellesley. Justice should also be done to the merit, judgment, character, and activity, of that distinguished officer, who so advantageously directed the supply, as well as the movement, of his troops, to prevent pillage and every other excess, and to conciliate the inhabitants of the districts through which he passed.

125. The British army was joined on its march by the greater part of the chiefs and Jaghirdars of those territories. Nevertheless, no specific engagement has been concluded with them; but they have been assured that they should be particularly recommended to the Peishwah's favour, if they continued, by their conduct, to deserve it. Several of those chiefs, who had incurred the Peishwah's displeasure, united with the British troops, on the promise of the British government to exert its influence to restore them to the confidence of their sovereign.

126. A circumstantial detail of the state of the chiefs and Jaghirdars in the southern parts of the Peishwah's empire, and a list of those who joined the army commanded by Major-general Wellesley, are minuted in the registers, No. 48, 49; 9th May, 1803.

127. On the 15th April Major-general Wellesley formed a junction with the auxiliary forces and the troops of his highness the Nizam,



under the command of Colonel Stevenson. The detachments of the army of Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, under the command of Futteh-Sing and Meer-Khan, the first of which had gone as far south as Meriteh, and the latter had occupied a post on the Nizam's frontiers near Bejopoar, retreated as the army of Major-general Wellesley advanced. The approach of Major-general Wellesley determined Jefwunt-Row-Holkar to fall back from Poonah to Chandore, a town situated about 130 miles north-east of Poonah, and Amrut-Row alone remained at Poonah with about 1500 men.

128. From these circumstances, it appeared to Major-general Wellesley necessary to advance to Poonah with all the troops destined for the re-establishment of the Peishwah in his states; and as the country was extremely impoverished, and a great quantity of forage was wanted, Major-general Wellesley resolved so to dispose of his troops that they could provide themselves with forage and subsistence, and yet easily unite in case it should become necessary. Major-general Wellesley consequently ordered Colonel Stevenson to quit his post near Akloos and go to Gardoon, leaving near that post, in the Nizam's territory, his highness's troops; and gave him orders to place himself, with his Britannic Majesty's auxiliary troops, on the river Bheemah, towards Poonah, near the place where it unites with the river Mota-Mola.

129. After having completed these arrangements, General Wellesley continued his march towards Poonah, by the route of Baramooty. The general had, at different times, been informed by Colonel Close that Amrut-Row, who was still at Poonah, intended to plunder and burn that city upon the approach of the British troops. The Peishwah, who was then at Bassein, intreated General Wellesley to detach some men from his highness's troops, to provide for the

safety of his highness's family, which was still at Poonah. It was evident, that although even General Wellesley might have obtained officers from his highness's troops who would have marched towards Poonah, the army would not have been sufficiently numerous and strong to impede the execution of the project of Amrut-Row; for this reason, General Wellesley resolved to begin his route with the English cavalry, and the Mahratta troops belonging to the Peishwah, as soon as the British army should arrive within a forced march of Poonah. In the mean while, news was received that Amrut-Row was still in the vicinity of Poonah on the 18th April, and had sent the Peishwah's family into the fortress of Saogur, a step which was supposed to announce the destruction of the town. General Wellesley, in consequence, set off during the night of the 19th April, 1803, and directed his course over a country extremely rugged and uneven, and by a difficult passage, the little Bhoor-ghaut, about 40 miles from Poonah, where he arrived at the head of the English cavalry, 20th April, 1803, after having performed, since the morning of the 19th, about 60 miles in 32 hours. Early in the morning of the 20th Amrut-Row received intelligence of the march of the British army, and made a precipitate retreat, leaving the town uninjured. Major-general Wellesley and the British troops were hailed as the deliverers of the city. The few inhabitants who had remained, and those who had left their habitations and fled to the neighbouring mountains during Holkar's usurpation, gave a proof of their confidence in the British government, by returning immediately to their respective houses, and resuming their different occupations. It is a circumstance honourable to the English character, and happy for our interests in that part of India, that the first effects of the British influence over the Mahratta empire had been the preservation of the capital of the empire from impending ruin, and the rescue of its inhabitants from violence and rapine.

130. The detail of Major-general Wellesley's operations in his march across the Mahratta territories, until his arrival at Poonah, may be seen in his dispatches addressed to Lieutenant-general Stuart. Copies have been transmitted to the Governor General by the right honourable Lord Clive, in his excellency's dispatches, which are registered in the papers No. 29, 32, 36, 38, 46, 50, 55, 9th May, 1803, and No. 1, 6, 8, 22nd January, 1803.

### FORT ST. GEORGE.

131. It is to the purpose here to cast an eye over the military dispositions adopted at Fort St. George, after the departure of the army of Major-general Wellesley, from Hurryhar towards Poonah, 9th March.

132. The grand army continued to occupy the southern banks of the Toombuddra, for the purpose of preserving tranquillity in the British possessions, and protecting, against foreign attack, the ceded districts and the territories of the Myfore Rajah, as well as those of the Nizam, by keeping in check the southern Jaghirdars of the Mahratta empire, and being always ready to give assistance to the troops, which were marching in front.

133. Lieutenant-general Stuart being of opinion, that the above-mentioned plans would be better effected by placing his army beyond the frontiers, and Lord Clive being of the same opinion, the army crossed the Toombuddra in the month of May, and marched towards Moodgul, a place situate between the Kistna and the Toombuddra, where it arrived at the end of the said month.—29th Dec. No. 116, 119, 123, 124, 125.



## POONAH.

134. The numerous and different communications contained in the dispatches of the resident at Poonah, addressed to the Governor General, from the conclusion of the treaty of Bassein, to the return of his highness the Peishwah to Poonah, prevent the inclosing in this dispatch an exact recital of the operations of that officer and of the different events which had occurred during the residence of his highness the Peishwah at Bassein. The resident at Poonah has already sent to your honourable committee, the particulars of the operations and transactions in that part during the period abovementioned, and the detail of those transactions and operations is registered in the minutes of the 21st of July, 1803, No. 160, 163, 172, 173, 182, 183, 185, 195, 199, 200, 201, 203, 208, 211, 215, 216, 217, 221, 222, 224, and of the 9th May, 1803.

135. The Governor General in council thinks it right to acquaint you with the correspondence established between the resident at Poonah, and Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, on the subject of accommodating the disputes which existed between that chief and his highness the Peishwah, and to refer particularly to the papers which contain the detail of that correspondence.

136. On the 1st of January, 1803, the resident received a letter from Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, who was then at Poonah. In that letter he expressed his desire to be reconciled with his highness the Peishwah; and nearly at the same time, the vakeels went from Holkar to the place where the Peishwah resided, and communicated to Colonel Cloke the propositions with which they were charged.—These propositions were,

- 1st. That the Peishwah should pay Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar a crore of rupees to defray the expenses of his army.

- 2nd. That his highness should make over a fortress to Jeswunt-Row-Holkar.
  - 3rd. That his highness should compel Scindeah to liberate Khandy-Row-Holkar from prison, and to acknowledge Khandy-Row-Holkar as the chief and representative of the family of Holkar.
- These propositions were considered by the Peishwah, as extravagant in the highest degree.

137. The resident transmitted to the Governor General a copy of the answer which he made to Jeswunt-Row-Holkar's letter, in which answer Colonel Close informed that chief of the treaty concluded at Bassein, and charged him to make known to the Governor General his desires and sentiments in respect to the differences subsisting between him and his highness the Peishwah, signifying, that his excellency would be disposed to adjust their disputes on just and equitable principles, (21st July, 1803, No. 181, 182, 183, and 184.)

138. In compliance with the resolution, which the Governor General had taken, to make use of all possible means to effect the reintegration of his highness the Peishwah, by means of an amicable negotiation, the Governor General, on the 11th February 1803, gave instructions to the resident at Poonah on the subject of the propositions of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar.

139. His excellency was of the same opinion as the Peishwah, and considered Holkar's propositions as almost inadmissible; and thought that the right of Casher-Row to succeed his father, the late Tuckojee-Holkar, could not be disputed: that, consequently, every demand founded on the violation of that right must be rejected: that terms of accommodation between the Peishwah and Holkar should be offered to Holkar, as far as the Peishwah should be authorised, and policy permit him to grant them: that his highness should even offer a sum of mo-

ney to Holkar, on condition of his immediately quitting Poonah; and that it would be to the advantage of his highness to grant Holkar a fort, and jaghire or province, if, by such a sacrifice, the tranquillity of the Dekkan could be purchased.

140. The resident was charged to signify to Holkar, that the British government and the Peishwah would use their influence to bring about an accommodation between Scindeah and Holkar. The resident was further charged to remonstrate against the injustice of Holkar's demand, and to demand, in the name of the British government and the Peishwah, that Holkar should leave Poonah, and cease his opposition to the Peishwah's re-establishment, giving him to understand, that if he refused to listen to reasonable terms of accommodation, the allied army would compel him to submit to the lawful authority of his sovereign. Instructions were therefore, at the same time, given to the resident at the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and he was charged to point out to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah the advantage that would result to him, if he would consent for the British government to arbitrate the disputes between him and Holkar.

141. The detail of the correspondence established between the resident at Poonah and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, as well as the communications which he made to the Peishwah, on the subject of an accommodation between his highness and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, are registered in the minutes of the 21st February 1803, No. 131, 181, 182, 183, 184, 195, 196, 197, 203, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215. It is here sufficient to say, that Holkar's refusal of relaxing any thing from the demands which he had made to the Peishwah, and his highness's indignation at the treacherous conduct and exorbitant demands of his real subjects, prevented the resident from succeeding in the aim of the instructions of the Governor General, dated 11th February.



142. The resident at Poonah, according to the instructions he had received from the Governor General, established a correspondence between Lieutenant-general Stuart and the government of Bombay, and Major-general Wellesley and Colonel Stevenson. The details of those instructions will be found in the consultations of the 9th May, No. 133, 134, 135, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145.

### BOMBAY.

143. During Major-general Wellesley's approach towards Poonah, dispositions were made at Bombay for the return of his highness the Peishwah to his capital. The detachment of the British troops designed for the immediate defence of his highness the Peishwah at Bassein was increased, on the representation of the resident at Poonah, and put under the protection of his Majesty's 84th regiment, commanded by Colonel Murray. For the detail of his highness's route towards Poonah, and of the measures adopted on that occasion, your honorable committee is referred to the consultations of the 22d June 1803, No. 44, 45, 46, 53, 54, 55, 56.

144. His highness arrived at Chinchore on the 6th of May, and had a conference with the honorable Major-general Wellesley; and on the 13th of the same month his highness, accompanied by his brother Chimmajec-Appa, and by a numerous retinue of the principal chiefs of the Mahratta empire, marched towards the city of Poonah, and after having entered his palace, resumed his seat on the Musnud, and received the presents of his principal servants.

## DOWLUT-ROW-SCINDEAH.

145. To preserve the connection in the account of the transactions and operations, it is requisite here to pay attention to the journey of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah towards the Dekkan, and to the negotiations which have taken place at his court between that chief and the British resident, after the arrival of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah at Boorhampour.

146. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah was at Oujein, the capital of his empire in the province of Malwah, when he was informed of the defeat of his army under the command of Suddasher-Bhow, at Poonah, by the forces of Jefwunt-Row-Holkar. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah immediately set about uniting and augmenting his forces, with the intention of marching against Holkar.

147. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah left Oujein in the month of November 1802, and was afterwards joined by Ambujee, and the Bhies, or ladies of the family of the last Madajee-Scindeah, with their respective forces. (Consultations 22d February 1803, No. 22, 23 and 24.)

148. On the 13th January, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah took possession of Mehysur, the principal city belonging to Holkar's family. On the 23d January, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah arrived on the banks of the Nerbudda, which river he crossed on the 4th February. From the Nerbudda, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah continued his march towards Boorhampour, where he arrived on the 20th February.

149. By the detached letter of the Governor General, addressed to your honorable committee on the 24th December 1802, your honorable committee has been informed that the Governor General had determined to employ, conjointly with the measures which should be

adopted to re-establish the Peishwah on the Musnud of Poonah, the renewal of the propositions of the British government to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, to admit him to the advantages of the defensive alliance. Conformably to that resolution, the resident at the court of Scindeah, received orders to set off immediately for Futteghur, to repair to the camp of the chief, for the purpose of concerting with Scindeah, the means for restoring his highness the Peishwah to the Musnud of Poonah, and to propose to Scindeah the terms on which that chief should be admitted into the general defensive treaty concluded with the Peishwah.

150. Those instructions which are contained in the letters addressed to the resident to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, under dates of the 17th and 29th November 1802, are detailed in our minutes of the 22d February, No. 11, A. 16, A.

151. On the 13th December 1802, the Governor General received a letter from Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, in which he made him acquainted with his departure from Oujein, to go to the Dekkan, for the purpose of re-establishing order and tranquillity in that country, and testified the desire he had, that, in consideration of the good understanding which subsisted between the British government and the Peishwah, and the connection in which Scindeah found himself with regard to the two states as guaranty of the treaty of Salbye, the British government, "in concert and concurrently with Scindeah, would consider as the object of its attention, the confirmation of the attachment and of the established union, and the maintenance of the obligations of amity and respect towards his highness the Peishwah, conformably to the engagements which had heretofore existed."

152. In considering the equivocal style and reserve which generally distinguishes the Mahratta writings, and in paying attention to the affairs of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and to the evident motives which



away his views and interests, it is not without reason judged that the expressions above quoted comprehend, on the part of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, the proposition to induce the British government to co-operate in re-establishing the Peishwah on the Musnud of Poonah, in terms as direct as those which are generally adopted by the Mahrattas in their political correspondence.

153. Every sort of doubt on this subject was, notwithstanding, removed, in the sequel, by the receipt of a copy of the answer which Dowlut-Row-Scindeah made to the letter of the resident at Poonah, addressed to that chief the 9th January, 1803. By that letter he announced to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, that treaties of defensive alliance had been concluded between the British government and the Peishwah, and that a British army would be stationed in the states of the Peishwah, in virtue of those same engagements; and expressed the hope that the Governor General entertained, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah would co-operate with the British government to arrange the Peishwah's affairs, and to re-establish his highness's authority at Poonah. In answer to that letter Dowlut-Row-Scindeah wrote to the resident at Poonah in these terms:

“ I have been honoured with your agreeable letter, in which you give me to understand, that as relations of amity had long subsisted between the Peishwah Saheb-Behauder and the English company, engagements with Behauder respecting a defensive alliance have been concluded between the two states, and that consequently, in considering the events which had occurred at Poonah, the Governor General had resolved to send an army into that part, for the purpose, with my consent and co-operation, of punishing the rebels. In truth, my friend, the old relations of amity and union which exist between the different states render necessary such a design, and such a co-operation. My army, which has marched from Oujein to the

Dekkan, with the intention of laying the dust of trouble and chastising the insolent, crossed the Nerbudda on the 8th February under happy auspices, and will soon arrive at Boorhampour. My friend Colonel Collins, who, from the orders of his excellency the most noble Governor General, has quitted Ferruckabad to come to this place, may be expected to join me in some days, so that the interests of the different states may be consolidated, and admit of no distinction, upon the arrival of my army at Boorhampour. I shall hereafter inform you of the measures which will be judged necessary for the arrangement and termination of the affairs. God wills that, by his divine favor and an amicable co-operation, the evil deeds of the wicked should effectually cease."

154. It is evident, that these words make known, not only Scindeah's concurrence in the conclusion of the defensive engagements between the British government and the Peishwah, and in the march of a British army to re-establish his highness the Peishwah on the Musnud of Poonah; but also the intention, which that chief had, to concur in accomplishing the design, by combining the employment of his military forces with those of the British government.

155. The Governor General in council is therefore convinced, that, at the period of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's addressing to the Governor General, the letter, the substance of which is recited in the 151st preceding paragraph, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah desired to obtain the co-operation of the British government, to destroy the power of Jcsuwnt-Row-Holkar, and to replace his highness the Peishwah upon the Musnud of Poonah, and that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's view in writing that letter to him, was to request his co-operation.

156. But it is now evident that the subsequent views of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, were not to restore the Peishwah, to his highness's

antient legitimate authority, but to resume the ascendancy and undue influence which his Durbar had exercised in the Mahratta empire, and which he had lost by the success of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, and the subversion of the government of Poonah.

157. From the demand made by Dowlut-Row-Scindeah for the co-operation of the British power, the Governor General in Council confidently hoped, that this chief would have heartily concurred in the measures which might be adopted by the British government, to re-establish the Peishwah on the Musnud of Poonah, a step which appeared, on every account, necessary for the re-establishment of Scindeah's affairs in the Mahratta empire.

158. According to the instructions which the Governor General gave to the resident at Poonah, the substance of which is related in the 52nd paragraph preceding, Colonel Collins set off from Futteghur on the 20th December, 1802, and on the 27th February, 1803, arrived in the vicinity of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp near Boorham-pour.

159. Colonel Collins, on the 4th of this month, received a dispatch from the resident at Poonah, wherein he communicated to him the conclusion of the treaty of Bassein, and apprised colonel Collins that he had transmitted the news thereof to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. Colonel Collins thought it right, without loss of time, to announce to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah his knowledge of the treaty, and to acquaint the chief that he was authorised by the Governor General to contract, with him, engagements, similar to those concluded with his highness the Peishwah. Upon this communication, colonel Collins received an answer from Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, whereby he referred the most important points of Colonel Collins's letter to a personal conference.



160. The correspondence of colonel Collins during his march to Scindeah's camp (Consultation 22nd Feb. 1802, No. 24, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32) comprehends no other points of such importance, as to draw particular attention in the course of this dispatch. The Governor General in council, therefore, considers it sufficient to refer your honourable committee to the minutes, in which that part of Colonel Collins's correspondence is registered. (Consultation, 21st April, No. 12, 13, 14, 15, 17.)

161. On the 1st March, 1803, colonel Collins paid his first visit to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and was received with marks of respect and attention.

162. Colonel Collins's negotiations with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah being extremely important, as they contain the evidence of the unjust views and intentions of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, as well as the solicitude and serious efforts of the British government, to bring about the just and moderate aim of its policy by mild means, the Governor General in council considers, that he should relate the progress of those negotiations in the course of this dispatch, by paying attention to the instructions transmitted to the resident in the order of the dates.

163. Although Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had been informed by a letter, which the Governor General had addressed to that chief on the subject of Colonel Collins's mission, as well as by the resident's letter, which is mentioned in the 159th foregoing paragraph, that he was charged with propositions of an important nature, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah prolonged the commencement of the negotiation on frivolous pretexts, and endeavoured to shake it off, until the 11th of March, a period at which he gave Colonel Collins an opportunity of submitting to him, in general terms, the propositions with which that resident

was charged on the part of the British government. (21st April, No. 27, 28, 29, and 31.)

164. Colonel Collins told Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, that he was charged to consult with him upon the most efficacious way of restoring tranquillity in the Dekkan; that he was likewise to offer Scindeah the mediation of the British government, for effecting a reconciliation between him and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, and that the government uniformly desiring to cement and strengthen the relations of amity and alliance which had so long existed between his highness the Peishwah, Scindeah, and the British government, had moreover charged Colonel Collins to make Scindeah the offer, to admit him to the advantages of the defensive alliance, upon the terms recently concluded with his highness the Peishwah.

165. To this communication, one of Scindeah's principal ministers answered, on his master's behalf, that the important nature of those propositions rendered mature deliberation upon the answers to be given to them absolutely necessary, and desired that some time might be granted for it. The minister, however, accompanied this answer with assurances of Scindeah's disposition to concur in the desires of the British government.

166. On the 16th of March, one of the ministers of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah came to see the resident, for the purpose of communicating the answer which he had been charged to make to him in the following view: That in regard to the propositions of consulting with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, on the most effectual means of restoring and maintaining tranquillity in the Dekkan, they were conformable to the relations of amity which existed between the two states.

167. That with regard to the mediation proposed by the British

government, to effect a reconciliation between Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, the minister had been charged to observe, that the affairs of Scindeah's family and Holkar had always been common, or rather made but one class, and that, hitherto, the disputes which had arisen amongst them, were, in like manner, done away.

168. Upon the remark made by colonel Collins, that in every thing which the minister had disclosed in his answer, he gave no direct answer, either to the first or second proposition, he replied, that Scindeah had not told him, whether it was his intention to accede to, or reject those propositions, and that he had proposed to Colonel Collins all that he was authorised to say on these points.

169. With regard to the third proposition, the minister observed, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, who was guarantee of the treaty of Salbye, had been astonished that the last defensive alliance was concluded between the Peishwah and the British government, without his being informed of it before. That after having personally conferred with the Peishwah, Scindeah would be informed of the real state of the circumstances, and he would afterwards act in that manner which should appear convenient and proper.

170. The argument founded on the situation in which Dowlut-Row-Scindeah finds himself, between the British government and the Peishwah, as guarantee of the treaty, had already influenced and directed the instructions addressed, by the Governor General, to Colonel Collins, on the 20th November, 1802, and 11th February, 1803, papers of which mention has been made, in paragraphs 140 and 150 of this dispatch.

171. The Governor General in the instructions given on this subject observed, that to make the Peishwah responsible to Scindeah, for the



acts of his administration, as the acknowledged, executive chief of the Mahratta empire, would be to destroy the relations existing between them; that the Peishwah must be considered as free to contract any engagement that he might judge suitable, independently of the will of every other inferior member of the Mahratta state; that in his quality of guarantee of the treaty of Salbye, Scindeah was simply authorised to compel the execution of the treaty in its true sense, by that party which might go from the stipulations which it contained; that in this quality, he could not be considered as having the power to prevent the contracting parties from concluding a further engagement, or even of revoking the stipulations of the treaty of Salbye by mutual consent, and that at all events, his interests and dignity, as a member of the Mahratta empire, were taken sufficiently into consideration by the effect of the offer that was made to admit him as a contracting party, into the defensive treaty with the Peishwah, or to contract separate engagements between him and the British government upon the basis of that treaty.

172. Therefore, to answer the evasive pretext of wishing to be consulted in his quality of guarantee of the treaty of Salbye, before the conclusion of any engagement which might partake of the nature of those contracted with the Peishwah, Colonel Collins made use of the arguments suggested by the instructions of the Governor General.

173. To answer the desire which Dowlut-Row-Scindeah manifested, as to the necessity of a personal conference with the Peishwah, before he came to any resolution on the subject of the third proposition, Colonel Collins observed, that it either implied a doubt of the actual conclusion of defensive engagements with the Peishwah, of which, however, Scindeah had been officially informed, as well by himself as by Colonel Close; or to indicate a design of seeking to prevent the fulfilment of the arrangements lately concluded between the British go-

vernment and the Peishwah ; and Colonel Collins gave him to understand, that such an intention on the part of Scindeah would undoubtedly be considered by the British government as a breach of the relations of amity existing between the two states. To these observations the minister declared he was not authorised to return any answer.

174. The minutes of this conference were taken down in writing by Scindeah's minister ; but the resident did not receive the above, as an answer, until the 24th March, the time at which he obtained a conference with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah.

175. Colonel Collins began his conference by expressing the satisfaction that he felt in having a personal conversation, and the hope he had formed of obtaining a knowledge of the real sentiments and intentions of that chief ; he afterwards remarked, that the Governor General had supposed that the friendly propositions with which the resident had been charged, could not fail to be agreeable to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and he expressed his regret that the indecisive nature of the answers which Scindeah's minister had made to those propositions, made it believed that the court of Scindeah was dissatisfied with the conduct which the British government had adhered to in the late troubles of the Mahratta empire.

176. Colonel Collins then observed, that the timely interposition of the British government had not only preserved the acknowledged chief of the Mahratta empire from the destruction which threatened him, and frustrated the ambitious projects of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, after the defeat of the united forces of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the Peishwah by Holkar's arms, but had also prevented the injury which the power and interests of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah must have felt by the elevation of his enemies to the supreme authority of the

Mahratta empire, an event which could only have been prevented by the efforts of the British government.

177. The resident concluded by demanding, with earnestness, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah would declare his real sentiments and intentions.

178. In answer to the resident's observations, Scindeah's ministers abandoned their first pretension, concerning the right of Scindeah to be consulted, as guarantee of the treaty of Salbye, before the conclusion of any new engagement between the British government and his highness the Peishwah, and they acknowledged that the measures of the British government had produced great advantage to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, but insisted that the Peishwah ought to have informed Dowlut-Row-Scindeah of the terms of the treaty which he had concluded with the British government.

179. Colonel Collins reminded them of the constant amity which the Peishwah had always shewn towards Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and afterwards required the communication of Scindeah's answers to the friendly propositions of the British government; he moreover insisted upon a sincere explanation of the intention of Scindeah with regard to the treaty of Basscin.

180. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah said that he could give no decisive answer to the propositions of the British government, before the result of a conference which he proposed to have with the agent, deputed to his camp, on the part of the Peishwah, whose arrival was expected every instant.

181. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah then made a clear declaration as follows:

“ That he had no intention to impede the performance of the arrangements lately concluded between the Peishwah and the British government ; but that he should on the contrary desire to perfect the amity which then existed between the Peishwah, the British government, and his own states.” (9th May, No. 192.)

182. Five days after this unequivocal declaration, one of Scindeah's ministers waited upon the resident and made several remonstrances on behalf of Scindeah, against the approach of the British troops towards Poonah, accompanying these remonstrances with intreating that orders might be given to prevent their proceeding any further. The march of the British troops towards Poonah was, however, the necessary consequence of the arrangements concluded between the British government and the Peishwah ; in the way of which arrangements Scindeah had by his declaration promised to place no obstacle. Before the conclusion of the conference, the resident assured Scindeah's minister that it was not in his power to prevent the march of the British troops, and that by a reference to the supreme government they could not expect Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's desires to be of any effect, since the British troops would be at Poonah before they could receive any order to stop their march

183. On the 8th of April the resident went to the Durbar to deliver to Scindeah a letter which the Governor General had addressed to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah in consequence of an unjust demand made by some of Scindeah's officers, at the court of Hyderabad, for the payment of the chout. In that letter the Governor General took the opportunity of offering the mediation of the British government to accommodate the disputes which subsisted between the Nizam and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah.

184. This letter was received with demonstrations of extreme re-



spect, and satisfactory reasons were afterwards given on the subject of the complaint; but neither at this nor at any other time did Scindeah and his ministers take notice of the paragraph in the letter of the Governor General, wherein he said that Colonel Collins was charged to concert with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, the means of effecting an amicable accommodation of the differences which existed between him and Jefwunt-Row-Holkar, and all the methods employed by the resident to attract Scindeah's attention to that subject have been ineffectual. Colonel Collins perceived in his conversation, that the court of Scindeah was equally alarmed and dissatisfied with the approach of the British army towards Poonah. (22d June, No. 35.)

185. On the 18th April, Ectul-Punth, who afterwards negotiated the treaty of peace, concluded by Major-general Wellesley, with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, at Serje-Anjengaum, waited upon the resident accompanied by the minister, who had before directed the conferences with Colonel Collins. Ectul-Punth at first supported the right of Scindeah as guarantee of the treaty of Salbye, to be mediator between the British government and the Peishwah, in the treaty of Bassein. The resident referred him back to the answer which had already, on a prior occasion, been given to that proposition, and which is pointed out in the 170th preceding paragraph.

186. Scindeah's minister then observed, that the approach of the British troops had been caused by doubts and suspicions in Scindeah's Durbar. In the course of this conference, which was marked by a great degree of intemperance and defensive violence on the part of Ectul-Punth, that minister, in an elevated and insulting tone of voice, demanded whether it was intended, by the treaty of Bassein, to take the turban from Scindeah's head.

187. The Colonel, in answer, assured him of the mild intentions of

the British government, and replied to his representation upon the approach of the British troops to Poonah, by arguments similar to those which he had made use of on a former occasion.

188. On the 4th May, Scindeah set out from the neighbourhood of Boorhampour, and the British resident, in compliance with Scindeah's desire, followed him on the 5th. (Consultations, 22d June, No. 145, 147.)

189. It is here necessary to observe (Consultations 21st April, No. 20, 23, 26, 32), that so soon as the 27th February, the day of the resident's arrival in Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp, Colonel Collins was informed that an alliance had been entered into between Scindeah and the other Mahratta chiefs, to undertake hostile designs against the British government and its allies. The prime-minister of Jador-Row-Scindeah had been sent as a deputation, on the eve of the British resident's arrival, to the court of the Rajah of Berar. That minister's nephew was a short time after sent to the Peishwah, to make remonstrances to him on the line of conduct he had pursued, in concluding the treaty of Bassein. And, nearly at the same period, vakeels arrived at the camp of Scindeah, with instructions from Holkar, to negotiate an accommodation of their disputes. The subsequent information, which the resident procured, tended to corroborate the belief of the existence of a hostile alliance. The Rajah of Berar took the field with a great army, incited thereto by Scindeah's minister; and the clear object of Scindeah's departure from Boorhampour was to unite with the Rajah of Berar and consult with him on the situation of affairs.

190. The existence of any such confederacy appeared to the Governor General extremely doubtful. Considering the local situation, and paying attention to the power and resources of Scindeah and the

Rajah of Berar, it was difficult to believe that they could have any intention to overthrow the British government or to annul the treaty of Bassein at the risk of involving themselves in a war with the British government. It appeared probable that if such a combination had been formed, its aim was merely defensive, without covering any hostile view. At the same time the advice which the Governor General had received at the beginning of the month of May, as well from the resident at the court of Scindeah as from that at Hyderabad, upon the dispositions of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and upon the march which the whole body of his army was to make to Poonah, together with the reports of a confederacy between that chief and the Rajah of Berar, the aim of which was to annul the treaty of Bassein, proved the advantage there might be in taking early precautions against every possible chance. His excellency consequently resolved to demand of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah an immediate and satisfactory explanation of his pacific intentions.

191. Although his highness the Peishwah had not, at this juncture, been reinstated in his capital, the news which the Governor General had received that Jeswunt-Row-Holkar had retreated from Poonah, that the British troops commanded by Major-general Wellesley were advancing towards that city, and that, in short, all the arrangements made for the support of the cause of the Peishwah were about to take effect, added to his excellency's conviction that the restoration of the Peishwah to his legitimate authority was at that period effected, or could not fail of being so, by the exertions of the British government.

192. Whilst Jeswunt-Row-Holkar continued to be at the head of a powerful army in the neighbourhood of Poonah, and maintained in the Mahratta empire the ascendancy which he had acquired by his success in the rebellion against the Peishwah's authority, and so long as the result of the measures pursued by the British government, at the solici-

tation of the Peishwah, to reinstate his highness in the Musnud of Poonah, remained in suspense, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah flattered himself with being nominated to the place of chief, charged with the direction of the domains of the Mahratta empire, by employing the means in his power for the destruction of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar's rebellion, and the maintenance of the supreme and executive authority of the state. The co-operation of the British troops with his army would have been, at all events, necessary to his design. But Scindeah having effectually tried every similar effort against the power of Holkar, and the approach of the British army towards Poonah having induced Jeswunt-Row-Holkar to abandon his project of bringing about a revolution in the Peishwah's government, and to retreat with his troops from that capital, and the promptitude and energy of our operations having rendered secure the establishment of the Peishwah in his legitimate authority without the assistance of Scindeah; the march of that chief extended to Poonah, with the design of protecting the Peishwah's cause, or to provide for the safety of his own power and states against the ambitious projects of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar was then become useless, and from these circumstances the perseverance of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah in his intention of marching with his army to Poonah could have no other view than that of annulling the arrangements lately concluded between his highness the Peishwah and the British government, and to re-establish his own ascendancy, usurped by Holkar, in the state of Poonah. His excellency the Governor General, therefore, judged it necessary to permit no project to be adopted, on the part of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, which was of a nature hostile to the interest of the British government, either by requiring the return of Scindeah with his troops to the north of the Nerbudda, or that he should give some other unequivocal proof of his intention in no wise to seek to derange the engagements concluded between the British government and his highness the Peishwah.



193. The Governor General gave instructions accordingly, to the resident at the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, on the subject of a remonstrance to be addressed to that chief, founded on the basis of the preceding observations.

194. The resident was charged to communicate the treaty of Bassein to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and to explain to him in the clearest manner, the generous principles on which it was founded, and the just and moderate views with which it had been concluded. The resident was particularly charged to remark to that chief, that the treaty of Bassein would procure for all the Mahrattas, the greatest security of their possessions and respective interests in their separate states; that this treaty contained a formal disavowal of an intention either of the Peishwah, or of the British government, to molest any of the Mahratta chiefs, who should not declare themselves inimical to the British government or its allies, by taking hostile measures contrary to their rights or interests; that by no stipulations of this treaty, could any power arrogate to itself, the right of intermeddling in the internal affairs of any Mahratta chief, who was not subject to the legitimate authority of the Peishwah; that the principal object of the treaty of Bassein had been to protect the British states, and those of our ally, the Nizam, from the dangers of approaching anarchy, and to fulfil the duties of friendship towards our ally, the Peishwah, by providing at the same time for the preservation of the different branches of the Mahratta empire, without overturning the constitutional forms of the state, or doing any injury to the legitimate independence of the feudatory chiefs; and that this act of policy must render still closer, the ties of amity and alliance with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and the other chiefs of the Mahratta empire.

195. Whatever might be the hope that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah would acknowledge the justice and moderation of our views, in con-

cluding this alliance with the Peishwah, and that he would be satisfied that the treaty of Bassein had not infringed his rights and independence ; there was, however, no hope, that he would immediately and cordially subscribe to an arrangement, by which the success of his known projects of ambition would be arrested, and his influence at the court of Poonah entirely annihilated.

196. The resident was afterwards charged to observe to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, that his influence at Poonah had been already destroyed by Holkar's success, which had nearly effaced Dowlut-Row-Scindeah from the list of the powers of India ; and that if, after the reinstatement of the Peishwah in his legitimate authority, a barrier were raised against the usurpation of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, upon the legitimate powers of the Mahratta empire, he, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, must reflect, that by submitting to that sacrifice, he would acquire great security for his legitimate power, and that he was indebted for the safety of a considerable part of his states, to the check which the British government had opposed to the army of Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar.

197. The resident was besides particularly charged to oppose every endeavour on the part of Scindeah, to dispute with the Peishwah, the right of concluding a political arrangement, without the previous consent of the feudatory chiefs ; and to say that the Governor General observed, that this right could not be disputed without injustice to the Peishwah, whether it rested upon the primitive constitution of the Mahratta empire, or upon the actual custom of the different chiefs, who composed the Mahratta confederacy. On this subject his excellency said, that the exclusive right of concluding treaties with foreign powers, provided the rights of the vassal chiefs of the empire were not compromised, was inherent in the supreme executive of the Mahratta empire ; and that it was even a question, whether the Peish-

wah, acting with the name, and with the sanction of the nominal chief of the empire, had not the right to conclude treaties which should be obligatory on the subordinate chiefs and vassals, although such treaties were made without the participation of those vassals; and that even, supposing the reverse, it was impossible, in a political transaction, to conform to a constitution altered by time, and falling into disuse; that the late Mahajee-Scindeah, and his successor, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, had always exercised the right of independant power, by declaring war, and making treaties with the neighbouring states, and by regulating all the system of their internal administration, without the participation and consent of the Peishwah, whose supremacy, notwithstanding, Mahajee-Scindeah, and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had always acknowledged; that, consequently, Scindeah, even in following the original constitution, could not dispute the Peishwah's right to make the late arrangements with the British government without his participation; and, that by disputing it, he would attack the validity of his own acts, and those of his predecessor; and that he could not, according to the established custom, refuse to the Peishwah, the exercise of the same rights of sovereignty, which he and his predecessor had arrogated to themselves, since they acknowledged his highness as their paramount authority.

198. As to the Rajah of Berar, the Governor General observed, that from the known pretensions of that Rajah, to the authority of Sahoo-Rajah, it might be doubted whether the Rajah of Berar acknowledged the Peishwah's authority to be superior to his own; and that, moreover, the Rajah rejected the supremacy and quality of the Peishwah, and that he had further the right to interfere in his affairs; that the Rajah of Berar must consider his highness the Peishwah, either as his lord paramount, or as the chief of a foreign power in alliance with him, or as a power acknowledged by all India; but that the secret intentions of the Rajah of Berar being only to over-



throw the Peishwah, under the pretence of assisting him for the purpose of aggrandizing his own states ; the powers of India would not permit the Rajah of Berar, in any case, to oppose the rights of his highness the Peishwah, his superior and lord paramount, unless the latter should evince a disposition to attempt his rights, his authority, or his independance.

199. The Governor General afterwards observed, that the same arguments which would refute the validity of Scindeah's pretensions to be consulted, upon the conclusion of a political arrangement between the Peishwah and a foreign power, were equally applicable to the right which Scindeah wished to arrogate to himself, of interfering in the arrangement concluded between the Peishwah and the British government ; or in his highness's internal administration. The resident was, in consequence, charged to combat all arguments tending to justify the pretensions of Scindeah.

200. The instructions of the Governor General intimated, that the interference of the British government to reinstate the Peishwah, and the conclusion of the alliance with the state of Poonah, were acts not only founded on principles of justice, and on the rights of nations, but even on every necessity for the preservation and integrity of the Mahratta empire, and for the security of the legitimate rights of the different chiefs, particularly of Scindeah ; that those rights and interests were specially guaranteed by the articles of the treaty ; and that the British government, from all these circumstances, should regard as acts of hostility, every endeavor on the part of the chiefs, tending to impede the treaty of Bassein.

201. The Governor General observed besides, that all the circumstances considered, the government had the undoubted right to require Scindeah to give an unequivocal proof of his resolution to abstain



from all measures, tending to impede the execution of the late arrangements made in the Mahratta empire; and, that the most evident proof which Scindeah could give of his good intentions, would be, immediately to set off for his states north of the Nerbudda.

202. He furthermore observed, that a longer abode in his present position, without any motive, or without absolute necessity for the preservation of his rights, and his own affairs, would be regarded by the British government as a proof of the hostile designs of Scindeah towards the government and its allies, and would force them to have recourse to violent measures to compel him to retire to his northern states.

203. The resident was likewise charged to tell Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, that if he went to Poonah at the head of his army, unless he had the express permission of the Peishwah, ratified by the British government, he must expect to enter upon a war with the latter.

204. The resident was informed, that his excellency the Governor General had been apprised of a projected alliance between Scindeah, the Rajah of Berar, and Holkar; and that his excellency judged it right to require, that Scindeah should either formally disavow that alliance, or declare with clearness and precision his views in contracting it. In case Scindeah should avow the project of the union, without giving a satisfactory explanation, the resident was charged to declare to Scindeah, that, from the actual situation of things, the British government had a right to consider the alliance as an hostile measure towards it and its allies, and that it would be forced likewise to take defensive measures. The resident was also charged to signify to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, that his projected interview with the Rajah of Berar, was not a reason sufficiently strong for deferring his return to Hindostan, unless he should give the most decided proofs of their pacific inten-

tions. He was also charged to say, that the Governor General had sent representations to the purport of these instructions, to the Rajah of Berar, and had declared to that chief the resolution which the British government had taken, to anticipate with promptitude any sinister design on his part.

205. The resident likewise had instructions to lay hold of that opportunity for renewing to Scindeah the propositions of the Governor General for the conclusion of a treaty of defensive alliance between him and the Company; to inform Scindeah that his excellency was disposed to admit him as a contracting party to the treaty of Bassein, or to conclude a separate alliance with him; and to point out to him the advantages of that treaty to the stability of his government, and prosperity of his affairs, which the projected treaty would secure.

206. The resident was, moreover, charged to inform Scindeah of the firm resolution of the British government to resist, with all the force, energy, and power, which it is known to have, every attempt of Scindeah or any other chief, tending to shackle the treaty of Bassein in its execution, or to injure the British interests or those of its allies; and to acquaint him that any coalition or military operation on his part, in opposition to the repeated remonstrances of the British government, would force it to take up arms and attack the whole frontier of Scindeah.

207. The resident's instructions further stated, that any attack on the part of Scindeah upon our ally the Nizam, would be regarded as hostile towards the British government, which would repel it by every means in its power.

208. Those instructions continued, that in case Scindeah should

insist upon the necessity of his return to Poonah, to establish his pretensions with his highness the Peishwah, the resident should offer the mediation of the British government, and to that effect, should propose on the part of the latter, to go there to arbitrate the differences of Scindeah and Holkar. The resident at the same time received an order to transmit to Major-general Wellesley the result of the present remonstrances, for the guidance of that officer's conduct in consequence. Those instructions were dated the 3d June, and are repeated in the margin of this narrative, according to the date of the minutes, 22d June, 1803, No. 150.

209. For the purpose of communicating to Colonel Collins the sentiments and intentions of the Governor General, for the regulation of his conduct, notes, containing the substance of what is above detailed, were sent to him. Those notes are of the 3d May, and will be found in the Consultations dated 9th May, 1803, No. 298. Similar instructions were at the same time sent to the honourable Major-general Wellesley, and to the resident at Poonah. These instructions will be detailed in the course of this dispatch.

210. To give greater force to the representations of the resident, the Governor General thought it right to annex, in the resident's instructions, a letter for Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. In that letter the Governor General took the opportunity of remarking on Scindeah's approbation of the propriety and wisdom of the measures adopted by the British government, for the reinstatement of his highness the Peishwah to the Musnud of Poonah, and his distinct declaration to abstain from all projects tending to impede the execution of the treaty of Bassein. The General expressed the little attention he at first paid to the frequent reports which reached him, of the hostile views of Scindeah, and the Rajah of Berar; adding, however, that the information his Excellency had received, of the march of Scindeah

towards the Nizam's frontiers, and the resolution of the Rajah to join him, forced these rumours upon his attention, and made necessary a free and open declaration of the sentiments of his Excellency, and of his resolution, in case Scindeah was determined to execute the project of standing between the British government and its allies, or of violating the rights of the India Company or its allies. The Governor General began by explaining the general principles of the treaty of Bassein, the just and moderate views which had directed its basis, and the guarantee which it gave to all the vassals of the Mahratta empire in their legitimate rights and lawful authority. The Governor General then declared the firm resolution of the British government, to carry into execution all the articles of the treaty concluded with his highness the Peishwah, in spite of every opposition. He declared, besides, the desire of the British government to live in peace and amity with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, unless forced, by his conduct, to adopt opposite measures. That letter contained, in substance, all that the resident had been enjoined to state to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and it will be found in the minutes of the 21st July, 1803, No. 21.

211. The information of the projected alliance rendered it also necessary to send representations to the Rajah of Berar; and as Mr. Webbe, who had been appointed resident at the court of the Rajah, was detained, by public affairs, at Fort St. George, there was no British representative with the Rajah. His Excellency the Governor General, therefore, wrote to the Rajah of Berar.

212. The Governor General began his letter to the Rajah of Berar, by speaking in general terms of the late events which had happened at Poonah; he then said, that when the Peishwah was compelled by the violence of Holkar to abandon his capital, and to retire into the Trahein, his highness solicited the help of the British



government, to reinstate him in his legitimate authority over the Mahratta empire ; that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, alarmed by Jefwunt-Row-Holkar's successes, likewise solicited the aid of the British arms for that important object ; and that his Highness and Scindeah had then thought the intervention of the British government necessary to preserve the Mahratta empire, in that crisis, from anarchy and confusion.

213. The Governor General went on to say, that the British government, jealous of preserving the Mahratta empire from an anarchy which would have been fatal to all the neighbouring states, had joyfully consented to second the united views of his Highness and Scindeah ; that his highness, in consequence, put himself under British protection at Bassein, and concluded a treaty with the British government, calculated to secure the stability of his legitimate authority, and that of the subordinate chiefs, and the tranquillity and prosperity of the Mahratta empire.

214. The Governor General added, that for the execution of this arrangement, a detachment of the British troops was marching to Poonah, and the British auxiliary troops of his highness the Nizam were assembled to support it.

215. That the measures adopted by the British government for the restoration of his highness the Peishwah to his legitimate authority, had induced Holkar to withdraw from Poonah with his troops, and had destroyed every obstacle to the restoration of the Peishwah to his rights, and to his return to his capital : that the particular attention of the British government would be directed to the complete execution of all the articles of the treaty of Bassein, a copy of which was sent to the Rajah for his information.

216. The Governor General also said, in his letter to the rajah, that a considerate examination of the treaty would leave him no doubt of its justice, its moderation, and its propriety ; that an accurate review of the late occurrences in the Mahratta empire would suffice to convince him that the interposition and assistance of the British government for the re-establishment of the Peishwah in the government of Poonah, so far from having tended to disorganize the Mahratta empire, was the only means of preventing disorder, avoiding anarchy, and securing future tranquillity in all the Mahratta states.

217. The Governor General next directed the attention of the rajah of Berar to those articles of the treaty of Bassein which guarantee the possessions and legitimate rights of the different feudatory chiefs of the Mahratta empire. The Governor General supported the rights of his highness the Peishwah to contract any engagement he might please with a foreign power, provided it did not trench on the rights of the vassal chiefs of the empire. The Governor declared, that any interposition, by whatever power, tending to impede the execution of the treaty of Bassein, would be regarded by the British government and the Peishwah as hostility towards their joint interests.

218. The Governor General then explained the views of the British government in concluding the treaty of Bassein, in terms the same as those which he made use of in his letter to Scindeah, and in his instructions to the resident.

219. The Governor General then said, that he was disposed to conclude with the rajah of Berar a treaty similar to that of Bassein ; but that the refusal of the rajah of Berar would not on that account alter the friendly dispositions of the British government towards the Berar Rajah.

220. The Governor General added, that he was informed that the rajah of Berar viewed with jealousy and fear the conduct of the British government in the restoration of the Peishwah, and that he entertained the project of forming a league to destroy the advantageous treaty of Bassein.

221. That although the known character of the rajah would not permit him to give any credit to such reports, the Governor General, however, thought it proper to declare positively, that any military preparation by the rajah, or any combination on his part to overthrow the treaty concluded with the Peishwah, would be followed with preparations for war by the British government.

222. The Governor General finished by demanding a speedy and amicable answer from the rajah to his letter.

223. The letter of the Governor General to the rajah of Berar will be found in the minutes of the 23d June, 1803, No. 2.

224. Whilst in expectation of the pacific restoration of the Peishwah to the musnud of Poonah, the Governor General thought it expedient, and even urgent, to send speedily to the honourable Major-general Wellesley, and to the resident at Poonah, distinct instructions for the conduct they should observe after the return of the Peishwah to the capital.

225. The Governor General, with these instructions (corresponding with those sent to the resident at the court of Scindeah, 5th May), issued orders for Major-general Wellesley to observe in regard to his conduct, in case that Scindeah and the rajah of Berar should disregard the remonstrances of his excellency.

226. The Governor General took that opportunity to explain the principles on which the treaty of Bassein was founded, in general terms, and his aim and intentions in concluding that important treaty.

227. His excellency observed, that the destruction of the Mysore empire, and the consolidation of our alliance with the court of Hyderabad, would leave the British government no other antagonist, in all the states of India, than the Mahratta power.

228. That the Mahratta states, deprived of every European alliance, could not be looked upon as formidable rivals, except in the case that all the feudatory chiefs were to unite under an active leader, or in that of a revolution, which might concentrate into one hand the authority and the great resources of the vast empire of the Mahrattas, especially if that single chief were an active enterprising man.

229. That although such events might be contemplated in cold blood by the British government in the commanding attitude of its foreign relations, with regard to its immense resources, and to the concentration of its powers, it was however prudent to let no opportunity pass of preventing the re-union of the different Mahratta states, which might thereby threaten our possessions, or those of our allies or subordinates, as the Nizam, and rajah of Mysore.

230. That the most certain method of bringing about this important object appeared to be, that of establishing a close alliance with the acknowledged sovereign power of the Mahratta empire; but the alliance conceived so as to render the influence and troops of the British government the principal support of that sovereign. Such an arrangement would seem the most proper for establishing a just



balance between the states composing the Mahratta confederacy, and preventing a re-union of the forces of that empire. The Governor General added, that the principal thing to be done for the execution of the treaty of Bassein was, to prevent every hostile union of the Mahratta states, under a chief of the empire, against the British government and its allies.

231. Policy would also require, that the treaty should be so conceived as to prevent the aggrandizement of the chiefs, or the union of several against the Peishwah's authority, or against the company, its allies, or subjects; but that it was neither compatible with the principles, nor necessary to the object of the treaty, to exercise any influence in the internal affairs of the Peishwah; that it would be derogatory to the dignity of his independence, and would wound his pride. The resident was only charged to convince his highness, that his legitimate power was guaranteed by his alliance with the British government, and that he might expect, by that operation, to enjoy tranquillity and security, accompanied by respect and honours which he had never been able to find under the degrading influence of his own subjects, or the feudatory chiefs, and which he would never have met with under the protection of Scindeah, or that of the rajah of Berar, or by any peace whatever with Holkar and Amrut-Row.

232. In demonstrating to the Peishwah the advantages of our new alliance, the resident must make him take notice of the advantages which the Nizam has enjoyed since the conclusion of a similar treaty with the British government, and the firm resolution it has always manifested to maintain the inviolability of the Nizam's dignity and rights, and to abstain from every transgression of his highness's legitimate authority in his own states.

233. Whilst the articles of the treaty of Bassein were being so

framed as to protect the Peishwah's authority against the feudatory chiefs, the most efficacious measures were considered for the preservation of the respective interests of those same chiefs, and for their authority, each in his state.

234. The principal aim of the treaty of Bassein was to prevent the union of the different branches of the Mahratta empire in one sovereign power, and to hinder the Mahratta states from passing into unknown hands. The resident was charged to be actively and assiduously vigilant on all these points.

235. Conformably to those views and intentions, and from the actual position of the Peishwah's government, the attention of the resident, and that of the honorable Major-general Wellesley, were directed to the following objects:—1st, The restoration of his highness the Peishwah to the exercise of his legal and legitimate authority over the Mahratta empire.—2d, The real exercise of the rights of mediation and guaranty acquired by the British government from the treaty of Bassein. But great circumspection being requisite in the measures adopted to re-establish his highness the Peishwah in the musnud of Poonah, so as not to excite the jealousy nor to wound the pride of the Peishwah, the resident and Major-general Wellesley received instructions to endeavour to soften the Peishwah's resentment against Holkar and Amrut-Row, and to obtain, from his highness, some concessions in favour of those chiefs, so as to induce them to submit to the authority of the Peishwah.—3d, The establishment of auxiliary troops, agreeably to the treaty, and the adoption of efficacious measures for the return, to their ordinary quarters, of the troops employed on the Peishwah's re-establishment, as in the military disposition which might be judged necessary to insure the execution of the treaty concluded between the British government and the Peishwah.—4th, To provide for the safety of the states of

his highness the Nizam against every attack from Scindeah or Holkar. —5th, To take measures for the entire and immediate occupation, by the company's officers, of the districts ceded by the Peishwah.

236. The instructions of the Governor General on all these objects will be found detailed in a letter to the resident at Poonah, repeated in the deliberations dated 22d June, 1803, No. 53. The rumours which the Governor General raised at this period, of the views and intentions of Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, made the modification of these instructions necessary, by foreseeing the probable circumstance of a war between those chiefs and the British government.

237. The honorable Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah received a copy of the instructions which the Governor General had addressed to the court of Scindeah. Major-general Wellesley received an order to regulate the operations of the army under his command by the information he might receive from the resident with Scindeah, and the effect which the representation that Colonel Collins was charged to make him should have produced. General Wellesley was authorized to adopt hostile measures against Scindeah, if the representation of the resident would not make him relinquish marching with all his army to Poonah. Major-general Wellesley was also authorized to take all convenient measures, in case the report which the Governor General had received, of a league between Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, should be confirmed.

238. The dispatch containing these instructions was dated the 30th May; and the Governor General, the stronger to impress Major-general Wellesley with his sentiments and intentions on this important subject, and communicate it to them with the least delay, had sent it on the 7th May, with notes, containing the substance of the preceding instructions.



Those notes are stated in the deliberations 9th May, 1803, No. 300.

239. Upon the happy restoration of his highness the Peishwah to the musnud of Poonah, the Governor General considered it proper to address a letter to the Peishwah, for the purpose of explaining to him the nature of the alliance formed by the treaty of Bassein, and the expectations which the British government entertained in virtue of that treaty.

240. With that view, the Governor General, after congratulating his highness the Peishwah upon his happy re-establishment under the protection of the British government, reminded him of the uniformly amicable conduct of the latter towards his highness, and the propositions already often made to his highness for a defensive alliance. He observed, that if his highness had accepted those propositions at the period when they were first made, he would have escaped all the misfortunes which had since befallen him. His excellency then remarked to the Peishwah, that no power, except the British government, was in a situation to reinstate him without the greatest difficulties, and that he could enjoy under the protection of no state that tranquillity and security which would be derived from the treaty of Bassein.

241. The Governor General afterwards explained the general principles of justice and moderation on which the treaty of Bassein was founded. He observed to his highness, that the system of the treaty was purely defensive, and did not give his highness any right of interference in the affairs of his vassal chiefs, that being a jurisdiction of his lawful authority. His excellency at the same time gave his highness the formal assurance of the intention of the British government to abstain from every undertaking tending to interfere in



the private detail of his internal government—a step at once injurious to his dignity and his independence.

242. His excellency particularly recommended, to his highness, to attach the southern Jaghirdars sincerely to him, and proposed the interposition of the British government as the method most likely to obtain that important end.

243. The Governor General next explained to the Peishwah the necessity of abstaining from every negotiation which was not carried on in concert with the British government.

244. His excellency directed his highness's attention to the great advantages which his highness the Nizam derived from his alliance with the British government, and drew a comparison between his situation and that of the Peishwah, who was under the usurped power and caprices of his own subjects, with the liberty and independence enjoyed by the Nizam under the protection of his defensive alliance with the honourable company.

245. The Governor General concluded by declaring his firm resolution to sustain the dignity and authority of his highness the Peishwah, acknowledged and confirmed by the treaty of Bassein. This letter is in the minutes of the 21st July, 1803, No. 116.

246. Scarcely had the Governor General sent off his dispatch of the 9th June to the Peishwah, before he received advice from the resident at Hyderabad, that the whole army of the rajah of Berar, collected in the environs of Nagpore, would strike its tents on the 17th April, to begin its march to join Scindeah.

247. The Governor General then thought it fit to write another

letter of remonstrance to the rajah of Berar to dissuade him from taking measures which would confirm the rumour of a hostile league between him and Scindeah. That letter is dated the 22d May, and is in the minutes of the 21st July, 1803, No. 114.

248. To give those representations still greater weight, the Governor General ordered the resident at Hyderabad to repair to the camp of the rajah of Berar. The instructions of the Governor General to the resident at Hyderabad on this head are in the deliberations of the 22d June, 1803, No. 93 and 96.

249. But, on the advice which the Governor General received of the dangerous state of the health of his highness the Nizam, he counter-ordered the resident, desiring him to remain at Hyderabad, and to send his secretary to the camp of the rajah of Berar. (Consultation 22d June, 1803, No. 101.)

250. When these instructions reached the resident at Hyderabad he had just been informed that the rajah of Berar had arrived within a short distance of Scindeah's camp. It therefore became useless either for the resident or secretary to go to the camp of the Berar rajah.

251. The Governor General in council then judged it necessary to give his attention to what had passed at Poonah since the Peishwah's arrival in that capital.

252. Major-general Wellesley himself took the first opportunity of representing to the Peishwah, in the strongest terms, the claims of the southern Jaghirdars, who manifested their attachment to the Peishwah by co-operating with the British troops for the restoration of his highness to the musnud of Poonah. Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah continued to endeavour, till their departure from

Poonah, to prevail on the Peishwah to listen to those claims. The Peishwah was also invited to come to the assistance of, and give protection to, those Jaghirdars. They also engaged him to make certain arrangements in favour of his vassals, in the state of Poonah, with a view of bringing them to unite with the British troops in case that, from the conduct of Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, they should be obliged to have recourse to violent measures for the safety and preservation of the combined rights and interests of the Peishwah and the British government.

253. In the present situation of affairs it appeared, necessary, to Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah, to advance the army under Major-general Wellesley's orders to the north of Poonah, and to take up such a position as would enable them, in case of necessity, to act in concert with the troops under Colonel Stevenson's orders.

254. This measure was of the last importance, whether to prevent and overturn every hostile project of Holkar against the Peishwah, or to render abortive the design of Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, to go to Poonah, with their armies, for the purpose of overturning the treaty concluded between the Peishwah and the British government.

255. From all those circumstances his highness the Peishwah was required to furnish, in virtue of the treaty of Bassein, his contingent of troops to co-operate with the British army; Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah directed all their endeavours to engage the Peishwah to take the necessary steps for the equipment of the contingent of troops he was to furnish, conformably to the treaty.

256. The conferences which Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah had with his highness the Peishwah, and his ministers, on that object, and on other points of too little consequence to

be treated of in this dispatch, are reported in the consultations of the 22d June, 1803, No. 54 to 71 inclusive.

257. During this space of time nothing important happened at Hyderabad; the resident's correspondence, went on in the interval, (consultation of the 21st July, 1803, No. 78 to 101 inclusive,) on the apprehension of an invasion of the states of his highness the Nizam by Holkar, and the contributions levied by that chief on the towns of Aurengabad. Agreeably to Major-general Wellesley's orders, the corps of military troops commanded by Colonel Stevenson quitted its provisional quarters at Gardon, and directed its route to Aurengabad to succour that city. Before Colonel Stevenson arrived, Holkar had abandoned the town, with all his troops, and gone to a great distance from the Nizam's states. The resident's correspondence on this subject is contained in the minutes of the 22d June, 1803, No. 83, 87, 90, 94, 97, 107.

258. The resident at Hyderabad held an uninterrupted correspondence with the honorable Major-general Wellesley and Colonel Stevenson, on the subject of the operations which the troops under their orders might carry on, and on the subject of provisions and warlike stores for the army. In regard to the situation of affairs in the Marhatta empire, and the imminent danger which threatened Hyderabad, deprived of the succour of a greater force, the resident suggested to the court of Hyderabad the policy of uniting a numerous army of the troops of his highness the Nizam in the vicinity of Hyderabad, which the Nizam eagerly adopted.

259. The precarious state, however, of the health of his highness the Nizam gave reason to fear, at this period, his approaching death. The Governor General therefore, deemed it requisite to send instructions to the resident at Hyderabad, to confirm the resolution made by



the Governor General in council some time since, and which had been already transmitted to the resident, to support the rights of his highness's eldest son, Secunder-Jah, to the succession of the Nizam, and to charge him to obtain from Secunder-Jah, before his accession to the musnud, or also as his first act of sovereignty, the approbation and formal confirmation of all the treaties and engagements subsisting between the British government and the state of Hyderabad. These instructions are dated 22d June, 1803, No. 195.

260. The series of the dispatches of the resident at Hyderabad on the subject detailed in the foregoing paragraph, and on other points up to the middle of May, are in the consultations of the 22d June, 1803.

261. The Governor General now goes to the narrative of Colonel Collins's negotiations at the court of Scindeah. (Consultations of the 22d June, 1803, No. 149.) Balogee Koongur, an officer dispatched by his highness the Peishwah to explain to Scindeah the nature of his engagements with the British government, arrived in Scindeah's camp on the 7th May. The resident had been led to hope, that after this officer's arrival, Scindeah's ministers would, without further delay, give an answer to the propositions which he had made to Scindeah on behalf of the British government, (consultation 22d June, 1803, No. 153, 154,) but Colonel Collins was deceived in his expectation.

262. Towards the 26th May Colonel Collins received the notes and instructions dated the 5th May, spoken of in the 209th paragraph of this dispatch. Colonel Collins immediately demanded a conference with Scindeah, and the 27th May was appointed for that purpose.

263. Colonel Collins began the conference (consultations of the 22d June, 1803, No. 158,) by giving Scindeah the complete treaty of

Bassein. The resident having remarked on the spirit of peace and tranquillity which prevailed in all the articles, demanded Scindeah to declare whether that treaty included any article injurious to his legitimate authority. One of the ministers, who assisted at the conference, agreed that it did not, and Scindeah formally declared the same. The resident then passed to the negotiations between Scindeah, Holkar, and the rajah of Berar. He remarked, that their last movement justified the fear of the British government that they had leagued together to invade the states of our allies the Peishwah, and the Nizam, and to overturn the treaty of Bassein.

264. Colonel Collins observed, that the known and avowed project of Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, of marching to Poonah with their united armies, was totally useless, owing to the restoration of the Peishwah to the musnud of Poonah, and would be followed by the most fatal consequences.

265. Colonel Collins then demanded an unreserved explanation of the nature of the late negotiations. He renewed, in energetic terms, the assurance of the friendly disposition of the British government towards Scindeah and the rajah of Berar; but likewise declared its firm resolution not to attempt Scindeah's independence, nor to molest his states, unless that chief himself provoked it by commencing hostilities.

266. One of the ministers answered, that Scindeah had no intention of invading the territory of the Nizam or Peishwah; but being close pressed by the resident, who demanded a formal disavowal of every intention on the part of Scindeah to impede the execution of the treaty of Bassein; he said he could give no satisfactory answer on that point, before he had conferred with the rajah of Berar.

267. Colonel Collins endeavoured anew, but without avail, to

obtain an explanation of Scindeah's designs. The resident then declared to Scindeah, that his constant refusal to give him an explanation, and his military preparations, would compel the British government to adopt similar measures on all the frontiers of his states in India, and that the first advice which it received of the accession of Scindeah to a confederacy would be immediately followed by hostilities against all his frontiers. The resident finished by urging Scindeah, in the most amicable way, to make a sincere avowal of his projects.

268. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah put an end to the conference by declaring his final determination not to give the resident an answer until he had conferred with the Berar rajah. Scindeah broke up the conference with a public and formal declaration to the British resident, couched in these terms:—"After my interview with the rajah of Berar, you shall be informed whether we will have war or peace."

269. That declaration was an unmerited menace of hostility, and a public insult to the British government, by putting the question of war or peace upon the result of a conference with the Berar rajah, who was encamped with a numerous army in the neighbourhood of Scindeah's camp. Here was a sufficient proof of the sinister designs of the confederate chiefs, and their intention of immediately carrying into execution the project of their league. It was now the duty of the Governor General, without the least delay, to take the most effectual measures to avenge the dignity and defend the rights and interests of the British government, to avert every enterprize undertaken against our allies, and to overthrow the projects of invasion by the confederates.

270. That menace of hostility cannot be justified on any pretext: Scindeah cannot say that similar language on the part of the British government had provoked and hurried him to threats of war.



271. The commencement of the hostilities announced by the British resident, however, wholly depended on Scindeah's conduct. The resident declared to that chief, if he went to the extremity of taking part in a league against the British government, it would consider the act as aggressive, and that war should commence. Scindeah's conduct indicated his wish to enter into that league; there was, notwithstanding, justice and dignity in the British government apprizing him of the consequences of his conduct, in a manner which permitted Scindeah to tread back his steps. The answer of Scindeah purports the following formal declaration: "That with his own individual consent he should regard the formation of an offensive league against the company, and the last question of war or peace, as no longer depending upon the pacific views of the British government, but as depending upon the will of the confederate Mahratta chiefs."

272. The Governor General in council will now communicate to your honorable committee the detail of the measures taken, and the arrangements made by the Governor General to attain the end designed in the 269th paragraph. The Governor General immediately sent private instructions to his excellency the commander in chief, at Cawnpore, that he might take measures for uniting his army on the north-western frontier of the company's possessions. The Governor General directed the whole attention of the commander in chief towards the formation of a plan for the operations of the British army in those countries, and the political engagements to be made with the chiefs and neighbouring states, to diminish the enemy's resources, and to facilitate the success of the British arms, in case we should be compelled to pursue hostile measures towards Scindeah.

273. All the measures which the Governor General thought it advisable to take, under these circumstances, are detailed in a note of the



28th June, 1803, transmitted to the commander in chief, to serve him as a guide in his position.

274. The plan of operations, and the arrangements mentioned in these notes, were communicated to his excellency the commander in chief in a more detailed manner, and in the form of an official instruction, the tenor of which will be fully detailed in the 302d, and following paragraphs of this dispatch. To preserve perspicuity in the narrative of the operations of the Governor General at this critical epoch, he judges it material to inform your honorable committee of the instructions which he actually addressed to the honorable Major-general Wellesley and the Bombay government, at the moment when his excellency's notes were transmitted to his excellency the commander in chief.

275. From the actual state of affairs in the western part of India, and the alarming steps of Scindeah and the Berar rajah, it appeared of the first necessity to the Governor General to constitute a superior temporary power, as near as possible to the scene of political and military events, with full powers to conclude, on the very spot, every necessary arrangement either for the establishment of a definitive peace, or for a vigorous prosecution of the war. The Governor General considered that, at such a crisis, a multitude of different cases might occur, which it is not possible to foresee, and which might demand a prompt determination; that these various circumstances might be of such magnitude as to involve the result of the war or peace; and that the delays occasioned by sending the decisions of such cases to government might be very prejudicial to the public weal.

276. It was considered that the success of the operations of the army under Major-general Wellesley, in virtue of the instruc-

tions of the Governor General to the resident at Poonah, dated 30th May, might depend on the prompt decision of an infinity of cases, and political questions, which would give birth to interests and views of the different Mahratta chiefs and Jaghirdars, of their highnesses the Peishwah and Nizam, and, in short, of the different chiefs in Indostan and the Dekkan; which unforeseen cases will be, necessarily, connected with the movement of Major-general Wellesley's army.

277. The Governor General in council thought it necessary, in the present crisis, to unite the superior command of civil, military, and political affairs, in Indostan and the Dekkan, and to give to the same authority, although dependent on the Governor General in council, the command of the army and the power of negotiating. The Governor General was of opinion, that such powers could not be placed more advantageously than in the hands of the honorable Major-general Wellesley, already charged to re-establish tranquillity in the Dekkan; the ability, zeal, talents, activity and judgment of whom could not be disputed: who, with all these advantages, combined that of perfect local knowledge, great influence, and high reputation among the Mahratta chiefs. Besides, Major-general Wellesley had a complete knowledge of the views and sentiments of the Governor General, with respect to the Mahratta empire. All these considerations decided the Governor General to invest that officer with these difficult and intricate powers. Similar powers were got ready for Lieutenant-general Stuart, in case he should take the immediate command of the forces in the Dekkan.

278. By these instructions, the honorable Major-general Wellesley was authorised to enter upon the negotiations, and conclude treaties with the different Mahratta chiefs and Jaghirdars, in the name of the British government, so as to secure the important objects already known-

by the alliance recently concluded with his highness the Peishwah, and by that pre-existing with his highness the Nizam.

279. The honorable Major-general Wellesley was especially authorized to negotiate arrangements or treaties, either himself, or by means of the residents, or by the officers of the British government, with Scindeah, the Berar rajah, or Holkar, for the purpose of prevailing on those chiefs to retire with their armies, each to his own state, or to give some sufficient pledge of their pacific disposition towards the British government and its allies.

280. The Major-general was likewise authorized by these instructions, to become arbitrator in the name of the British government, for the establishment of any arrangement between his highness the Peishwah and those chiefs; to terminate their differences, reconcile their reciprocal demands, and to secure, by the guaranty of the British government, the execution of the articles agreed upon by the contracting parties. Major-general Wellesley was also authorized to propose himself arbitrator, and to guarantee an accommodation between Scindeah and Holkar, if any quarrels yet existed between these chiefs, and to negotiate, conclude, and guarantee, treaties with these chiefs, individually or conjointly, and with the rajah of Berar.

281. The principal intention of the Governor General, in authorizing Major-general Wellesley to conclude treaties with those chiefs, individually or conjointly, was to paralyze or prevent every league, and all the designs proposed for overturning the treaty of Bassein, or for making any attempt upon our rights and interests, or upon those of our allies.

282. Major-general Wellesley had, besides, instructions to place the greatest confidence in the residents at Poonah, Hyderabad, and Scin-

deah's camp, and to conceal nothing from them. He had the same instructions towards the resident at Guickwar, and instructions to correspond with Lord Clive, and Mr. Duncan.

283. For the execution of these instructions, Major-general Wellesley was authorised to make use of whatever military authority he might judge advisable, and to require the service of all the civil officers that he might consider necessary for the execution of the difficult and important undertakings with which he was charged. The detail of the foregoing instructions, dated the 26th June 1803, will be found in the minutes, 12th March 1804, No. 299, A.

284. The Governor General at the same time notified to the honorable Major-general Wellesley, his excellency's views and intentions, in reference to the operations of the army which was under his orders, and to the political steps which the state of the war between the British government and the Mahratta chiefs required.

285. By the letter of the Governor General on this subject, dated 27th June 1803, Major-general Wellesley was charged to demand of Scindeah, through Colonel Collins, a peremptory declaration of his intentions, and that in a certain number of days, to be limited by the Major-general, and reasonably fixed with reference to the season, and to the possible opening of the campaign in an advantageous manner. If this explanation were not full and satisfactory, the Major-general had authority to recal Colonel Collins from Scindeah's camp.

286. In this, or any other circumstance, which might appear in Major-general Wellesley's judgment imperiously to demand the commencement of hostilities, Major-general Wellesley was charged to make war vigorously upon Scindeah or the Berar Rajah, or upon both at once if he thought it necessary. Major-general Wellesley was also



charged, in case the war should be inevitable, to carry it on in the most active manner, and to follow up his successes without listening to any proposal for peace, until the power of those chiefs were entirely annihilated.

287. If circumstances required it, the Major-general had authority to conclude a peace with Scindeah and the Rajah of Berar, conjointly or separately as might appear to him the most advisable.

280. The immensity of the powers confided to the honorable Major-general Wellesley, made it necessary to annex to his instructions the notification of his excellency's sentiments in respect to the articles of a peace with the confederate chiefs. Although it is the intention of the Governor General in council to address, separately, to your honorable committee, the papers relative to the peace recently concluded with those chiefs; the Governor General in council, notwithstanding, now judges it expedient to draw the attention of your honorable committee to the instructions of the Governor General to the honorable Major-general Wellesley. They are dated the 27th June, and contain the first outlines of a plan of pacification with the confederates.

280. By these instructions, Major-general Wellesley had authority to conduct himself towards Holkar according to the principles which were prescribed for the regulation of his conduct towards the confederate chiefs, in case that chief should join the confederates.

290. The Governor General laid down his opinion that it was not desirable that the accidental power of Holkar should become established and acknowledged in India, and that his overthrow would be a political operation of the greatest importance; the Governor General, however, thought it proper, to leave to Major-general Wellesley's dis-

position and judgment, the conduct to be pursued in regard to Holkar. The Major-general was invited not to declare war against Holkar with the sole view of obtaining indemnity for the plunder of Aurungabad, or for any other devastatory incursion.

291. The attention of the honorable Major-general was also directed to the important object of encouraging European officers to quit the service of the confederates in case of war.

292. The Governor General likewise signified to Major-general Wellesley, that, by the insolent and hostile declaration of Scindeah, made to Colonel Collins on the 28th May, he could not consider Scindeah's retreat to the north of the Nerbudda as an adequate proof of his pacific intentions, unless Scindeah had given, in Major-general Wellesley's judgment, ample satisfaction. Major-general Wellesley was authorised to pursue Scindeah beyond the Nerbudda. The same principle was applicable to the Berar rajah, whose retreat into the limits of his possessions could not be regarded as a sufficient satisfaction, and an act of adequate security, after the reiterated proofs which the confederacy had given of its unbounded and insolent ambition. In all the operations of his army, and in all his steps, the Major-general was forewarned to have his eye upon the tottering state of the health of his highness the Nizam, and always to be in readiness to watch over the preservation of our interests, in case of his highness's decease.

293. A copy of the instructions given to Major-general Wellesley, dated 20th June and 27 idem, was sent to the honorable Governor of Bombay, inviting him to take measures, that he might be ready to employ the disposable military forces, in taking the fort and territory of Baroach, the possessions of Scindeah in the Guzurat, and those south of the Nerbudda.

294. The honorable Governor of Bombay was, at the same time, apprised that the British troops in the Guzurat, and those of our allies, would make part of the army under Major-general Wellesley's orders. The honorable Governor of Bombay was charged to order the resident at Baroda, to keep up a regular correspondence with Major-general Wellesley, on the points which might have reference to the public service; he also ordered the honorable Governor of Bombay to give every assistance in his power to Major-general Wellesley, and at the same time, to Lieutenant-general Stuart, to put those officers in a state to execute their mission, and to sustain the exercise of the powers which the Governor-general had thought it material to delegate to them, by his instructions of the 26th June.

295. A copy of the instructions given to the honorable Major-general Wellesley was sent to the honorable Governor of Fort St. George, with an invitation to his lordship, to concur in the objects it contained, in every possible case.

296. After sending notes and instructions to his excellency the commander in chief, as mentioned in the 272nd paragraph preceding, the Governor General received, by means of the secretary of the secret department, some views which Major Irish, a cavalry officer on the Bengal establishment, animated by a laudable zeal for the public welfare, had communicated for the examination of the Governor General. The tendency of these views was, in case of war, to oblige the British subjects, born in the honorable company's states, and breveted in Scindeah's service, to quit Scindeah's regular troops. These views having appeared to the Governor General well calculated to accomplish the aim of annihilating the establishment of Scindeah's regular troops; the Governor General sent, to the commander in chief, a copy of the communications of Major Irish, with relative instructions, dated 13th July, to carry Major Irish's projects into execution.

297. With these instructions, the Governor General sent to the commander in chief (Conference 2nd March 1804, No. 256, 257, 258), proclamations to be promulgated at the moment he might think proper. These proclamations summoned all subjects of the British government in the service of Scindeah, or in that of the Mahratta chiefs, leagued with Scindeah, to leave the service of those chiefs in the space of three months from the date of the proclamation, and to repair to the head quarters of the army, or to the officer charged to receive them. A promise was given of paying, to all such British subjects as should obey the proclamation, a pension equal to whatever pay or emoluments they might derive from Scindeah or any other Mahratta chief, during the whole duration of hostilities, or during the whole time that the honorable company might employ them in its service, engaging, when they should leave it, to afford them every facility compatible with their situation, and the principles of the British government. It went on to declare, that all British subjects bearing arms against the government should be considered as having forfeited all their rights to its protection, and be treated accordingly. The advantages of this proclamation were declared to extend to all French and Europeans whatever, or Americans who were in the military service of Scindeah, or the other chiefs, who might conform to the tenor of that proclamation. Another proclamation was sent to the commander in chief, purporting that all natives of the British countries in India, who were in the military service of Scindeah or his allies, and who would quit it and present themselves before the officer charged to receive them, should receive a pension equal to the amount of their pay or emolument, on producing an authentic proof of their departure from the troops of Scindeah or his allies, in consequence of the proclamation. The latter proclamation was afterwards extended to the subjects of the Nabob-vizier, in the military service of Scindeah, or the confederate chiefs.



298. The Governor General afterwards advised the commander in chief to take advantage of the augmentation of his army and the native regiments, to provide for the employment of the native officers and sepoy, who should leave the Mahratta service by virtue of the proclamation.

299. The commander in chief was authorised to assign to the European British officers, and to the other Europeans, the pay of their respective ranks in the Mahratta service, until they were placed in the allied or tributary troops of the British government, or until those who might wish to return to Europe found means and opportunity to go there, on the same conditions as the French officers in the Nizam's service had accepted some time since.

300. The commander in chief was enjoined to nominate officers, and put them in the places that he might think convenient to receive the European officers, and the commissioned or non-commissioned native officers and sepoy who should quit the Mahratta service.

301. The commander in chief was also charged to send the proclamation relating to the natives of India, into the bosom of the families of native officers and sepoy, in the service of the Mahrattas. To the end that the articles of the proclamation should be rapidly circulated, copies were sent to the honorable Governor of Bombay, his excellency Lieutenant-general Stuart, and Major-general Wellesley; to the residents at Hyderabad, Poonah, and Lucknow, and to the agents of the Governor General, in the ceded provinces; with an order to promulgate and distribute them with profusion when the favorable period arrived.

302. Conformably to the notes transmitted to the commander in

chief, dated the 28th June, which were spoken of in the 272d paragraph of this dispatch, the Governor-general, on the 27th July, sent to the commander in chief official dispatches, containing his excellency's detailed views and instructions upon the general plan of the military operations and political arrangements to be adopted in case of war, between the British government and the confederate Mahratta chiefs. The Governor General likewise sent separate instructions upon the different parts of the proposed plan of political arrangement.

303. The first of these dispatches began by establishing the views and intentions of the Governor General, on the following important points: 1st. The end it appears material to obtain in the course of the war with Scindeah and the Rajah of Berar, on the north-western frontier of Indostan. 2nd. The general plan of military operations which appeared most likely to obtain that end with the greatest promptitude and security. 3d. The course of the political arrangements and negotiations which the Governor General proposed to set on foot, under the inspection of the commander in chief, for facilitating the operations of the army, and securing the stability of the peace on foundations the most advantageous to the interests of the British government.

304. The Governor General commenced the discussion of these different points, by explaining the particular circumstances which render the north-western frontier of the province of Oude the weakest part of our vast empire.

305. The Governor General observed, that the opinion of the dangers to which the interests of the British empire in India feel themselves exposed in that part, added to many other motives, had brought on the arrangement made with the Nabob-Vizier, by the treaty con-

cluded at Lucknow, in the month of November 1801. That this arrangement had given great additional security to the British empire, but that the territorial possessions of Scindeah, and the nature and number of his troops, were an aggregate of dangers serious to the British government, because Scindeah had thereby a particular advantage in attacking the British possessions, which he could not have with an increase of power, by allying himself, perhaps to France or any other enemy of the British interests. The Governor General added, that however formidable Scindeah might become by the addition of foreign aid, it was not so much to be feared, nor did it present dangers so perilous, so terrible, and so direct, in all its possible consequences, as that, the result of weakening his local authority, which brought on the establishment of an independent and powerful French state in the feeble part of the Company's frontiers. That this French state had in its power the person and authority of the Mogul, a numerous army of native infantry, and the most numerous artillery in India (that of the Company's troops excepted), and exerted a considerable influence over the surrounding states, from the banks of the Indies to the conflux of the Jumna and the Ganges.

306. The Governor General entered into details of the dangers to which the British empire was exposed by the force and local position of the French state, observing what encouragement and what essential succours such a power could give to the enterprises of France, during the progress of a war with the British government. The Governor General added, that no instrument of destruction more judiciously placed to strike at the heart of the British Empire in India, could suggest itself to the vindictive hands of the First Consul of France.

307. The Governor General remarked, that supposing a close intimacy between Scindeah and the British government, and even sup-

posing Scindeah to accede to the general defensive alliance with the Company, the Peishwah, and the Nizam, it was impossible to suppose that this French state would cordially co-operate in the support of the British interests, and that little dependence could be placed by it upon the assistance of Scindeah, (though even he should be bound by a defensive alliance,) in the case where his aid would be more essentially useful, that of an attack upon the British possessions in the Indies by the French. The Governor General added, that, from the presumptive renewal of the war with France, and the necessity of taking all possible measures of precaution to preserve and secure the British possessions, it was indispensable to reduce the French state established in the Doab, independently of every difficulty between the British government and Scindeah. His excellency established the right the British government would have, in peace or war, in alliance with Scindeah, to demand the removal of a danger so imminent to the frontiers of our possessions, and observed, that notwithstanding the refusal or the impossibility on the part of Scindeah, to accede to this demand, the British government must secure the integrity of his territory, by itself repulsing, far from its frontiers, a neighbouring cause of alarm and uneasiness.

308. The Governor General proceeded to establish the most desirable consequences of the war, on the north-west frontiers of Indostan, that is to say, the entire reduction of the regular troops under the orders of M. Perron; the occupation of the whole space of country, forming the Doab, between the Jumna and the Ganges to the mountains of Cumaon: and the occupying of Delhi, Agra, and a chain of posts on the right bank of the Jumna, from the mountains of Cumaon to the province of Bundelcund. His excellency observed, that his intention was not to extend, for the moment, the limits of the Company's possessions, beyond the line of the Jumna, Agra and Delhi included, and a chain of posts to protect the navigation of the river.



His excellency added, that all the connections which might be formed to the south and west of the Jumna, beyond the line above mentioned, should be founded on the principles of defensive alliance, or tributary dependence, so as to leave existing between the British possessions and the Mahratta empire, a barrier, formed by petty states, freely exercising the rights of independent government, each in their respective limits, in alliance with the Company, and under the protection of the British government.

309. His excellency the Governor General pointed out the importance it was of to rescue the person and titular authority of the Mogul, from the power and enterprizes of France, and what an accession of consequence the English name would acquire in India, by giving an asylum and honourable support to that monarch, not less unfortunate than outraged. The Governor General added, that the reduction of the French troops would afford the means of contracting alliances with the inferior states, situate beyond the Jumna, which would put us in a situation, the first opportunity, to make war advantageously, and to form, in these petty states, a barrier, between Scindeah and the Mahratta chiefs and our northern districts in Indostan.

310. His excellency likewise declared, that the near incorporation of the province of Bundelcund to the company's other possessions, was an operation very beneficial to the province and city of Benares, and very important to the general system of the defence of this valuable part of the British possessions. His excellency called the attention of the commander in chief to these points, and went on to communicate his intentions and instructions as to the general measures to be taken, to arrive at a happy result. The Governor General observed, that the primary object of the operations of the commander in chief must be, the total destruction of the French establishment,

erected by M. Perron in the Doab; and enjoined the commander in chief to make such arrangements, and take such steps as he should think advisable, to secure the success of this important object before the rains were over.

311. The Governor General added, that the most important point attached to the destruction of M. Perron's party was, the safety of the person of the Mogul, and of the presumptive heir.

312. The second important point was, the reduction of the fortresses of Agra; and his excellency the Governor General gave the commander in chief some advice as to the manner and time proper for executing this project; always leaving the commander in chief at liberty to take such measures as he should think advisable.

313. The possession of Bundelcund was marked by the Governor General as the third great point of importance. His excellency was of opinion, that the detachment posted at Allahabad to cover Benares, would be adequate to take possession of that province.

314. The Governor General instructed the commander in chief of the plan of defensive measures which he had adopted on the whole frontier, from Mirzapore to Midnapore; (these measures are discussed in the 618th, and following paragraphs of this dispatch,) and charged him to occupy the defiles leading from the Dekkan to Indostan.

315. In the notes which accompanied these instructions, the attention of the commander in chief was directed towards occupying Gwalior, which is guarded by the troops of Ambajee, and is the key to the principal road from Oujein to the heart of Scindeah's possessions in Indostan.

316. The Ranah of Gohud, although, by the usurpation of the late Mahajee-Scindeah, despoiled of his hereditary possessions, and destitute of every power and resource, passed for preserving great influence over the tribe of Jats, and for being desirous of the succour of the British government. It was thought, that with the aid of the British government, the Ranah of Gohud would be able to levy considerable forces, which would serve to impede the march of Scindeah in Indostan, whilst the occupation of Gwalior would put us in a state to maintain the Ranah's authority in the Gohud country, and encourage the Jats to assist their natural chief, to oppose the incursions of Scindeah's troops.

317. For the execution of these objects, the commander in chief was directed to open negotiations with the Ranah of Gohud. As to occupying Gwalior, the Governor General thought that the siege of that fortress should be deferred, until the defeat of M. Perron should permit a detachment to be made for that purpose. The Governor General, as for the rest, gave hopes of the possibility of obtaining possession of that fortress by peaceable means, Ambajee having often manifested the desire of joining his interests to those of the British government.

318. The Governor General likewise communicated to the commander in chief, in a general way, the orders which Major-general Wellesley and the Governor of Bombay had received, in case of war, to carry hostilities against the confederate chiefs into the Dekkan, and into Scindeah's possessions in the western part of the peninsula.

319. The attention of the commander in chief was likewise directed towards the adoption of an arrangement, calculated to insure the tranquillity of the Nabob-Vizier's possessions during the war.



320. The Governor General informed the commander in chief, that he had, by a separate letter, invested him with the necessary powers for directing all the negotiations, and all the political arrangements which might be convenient for the operations of the British army ; referring him to that letter, and to the instructions which he had addressed to Mr. Mercer, (they are particularly detailed in the 322d and subsequent paragraphs of this dispatch,) as well as to a letter of the Governor General relative to the situation of his majesty Shah-Allum, (this letter is particularly detailed in the 354th and following paragraphs of this dispatch,) for his directions in the course of the measures he might resolve to take, for the purpose of facilitating the operations of his army. The Governor General, nevertheless, thought it proper to charge the commander in chief to strive to detach, by negotiation, M. Perron from the service of Scindeah, and gave him power to conclude a convention, which should give him every security for the preservation of his personal interests and property, and would grant him a reasonable reward from the British government, if he would give up his military establishment, and relinquish his military resources, territorial possessions, the person of the Mogul, and that of his presumptive heir, to the commander in chief.

321. These instructions were accompanied by copies of the notes previously sent, in particular to the commander in chief, and are repeated in the minutes of the 2d of March, 1804.

322. The Governor General in council thinks it proper now to explain the substance of the instructions of the Governor General, dated 22d July, to Mr. Mercer, an agent charged by his excellency to assist the commander in chief in executing the instructions of the Governor General, relative to the occupation of the province



of Bundelcund, and in concluding the other political arrangements, pointed out in the instructions of his excellency to the commander in chief, dated 25th July, and in the preceding notes annexed to that dispatch.

323. The local knowledge, political experience, acknowledged zeal, ability and discretion, which distinguished Mr. Mercer, and which that gentleman has so often displayed in the situation of secretary to the lieutenant-governor of the ceded provinces, appeared to entitle Mr. Mercer to the place of political agent in Indostan, to which the Governor General appointed him.

324. The Governor General was further induced to give that place to Mr. Mercer, from the consideration that those in the civil employment of the Company, who could by their local knowledge or experience have any pretensions thereto, could not have been taken from their actual employments, without causing a great interruption in the expediting of affairs, or causing great losses to the public service.

325. When Mr. Henry Wellesley, late lieutenant-governor of the ceded provinces, was at Illahabad, on his return from the ceded provinces, Hemmut-Behauder, one of the Peishwah's officers, employed in the province of Bundelcund, made some proposals to Mr. Wellesley for transferring this province to the authority of the Company. At that period Hemmut-Behauder's propositions could not be listened to, without the greatest injustice to his highness the Peishwah; but at present, owing to the attempt at so near a war between the confederate chiefs and the British government, now an ally of the Peishwah, the occupying, in the Peishwah's name, that part of the province of Bundelcund which belonged to him, became a measure of justice due to the Peishwah, and convenient for the sup-

port of the Peishwah's rights and the defence of the Company's possessions, and would insure the success of the military operations of the commander in chief in the north-west part of Indostan.

326. The considerations which induced the Governor General to take measures for occupying Bundelcund by British troops, in concert with Hemmut-Behauder, an officer in the service of his highness the Peishwah, are to be seen in his excellency's instructions to Mr. Mercer for the execution of this project. Mr. Mercer was enjoined by these instructions, first to go with the utmost possible speed to Illahabad, because the propositions which Hemmut-Behauder had previously made to the honourable Henry Wellefley, had just been repeated by that chief to the Governor General, through the medium of the collector of Illahabad.

327. In conformity with the above established principles, the Governor General wrote a letter to Hemmut-Behauder, wherein he spoke in general terms of his projects and views on the province of Bundelcund, and remarked, that he should send a confidential agent to Illahabad, to confer with Mr. Mercer on the projected arrangement. Hemmut Behauder's conditions were a jaghire in the Company's possessions, and the freedom of his relation Omrao-Geer, a subject of the Nabob-Vizier, convicted of having taken part in the revolt of the Vizier-Ally, and kept in the prison of Lucknow. Mr. Mercer was authorised to accede to these conditions, reserving however their fulfilment, in proportion to the degree of the means afforded by Hemmut-Behauder, for bringing about the object desired.

328. The imperfect knowledge which the government had of the internal state of Bundelcund, and the relative situation of the chiefs in that province, their power or influence, rendered necessary the determination of ascertaining what arrangements it would be desir-

able to make with them to attain the wished-for end. Mr. Mercer was instructed, that those arrangements should be made according to the information he was charged to obtain on all these points, on his arrival at Illahabad, and to the general spirit of his Excellency's views and intentions.

329. The Governor General added to this recommendation, general instructions as to the nature of the arrangements to be pursued with those chiefs.

330. Instructions were likewise sent to Mr. Mercer, relative to the conclusion of an arrangement with the Rajah Adjeet-Sing, hereditary chief of Boghielcund, whereby that chief would engage to oppose every enterprise of the enemy tending to penetrate into the country, through the defiles which are situated on the frontiers of that province. This negotiation was, in the sequel, confided to the magistrate of Mirzapore, and its progress and result will be marked in the course of this dispatch.

331. The Governor General then communicated his sentiments on the subject of an arrangement to be made with the Ranah of Gohud, and the other chiefs of the Jats, whose ancient possessions had been subjugated by Scindeah, and which must undoubtedly be impatient to have an opportunity of shaking off the authority of the Mahrattas.

332. The opinion pronounced by the Governor General was, that in case of a war, the security of the British possessions in the Doab would require the extinction of Scindeah's authority and influence in the north-western provinces of Indostan; but that the extension of the British provinces westward of the Jumna was not desirable beyond Bundelcund, and the ports or territories necessary to secure

the navigation of the Jumna. Upon this principle the Governor General authorised the conclusion of an arrangement with the Ranah of Gohud, and the other chiefs of the provinces situate to the north-west of Indostan, which would secure them the undisputed possession of their hereditary fiefs, on condition that they should zealously co-operate with the British troops, to keep off the troops of Scindeah from this part of Indostan, as well as to repel every other future expedition, whether of Scindeah, or whatever power which would establish itself in their provinces.

333. Upon these views the Governor General thought it right to make an advance of money to the Ranah of Gohud, who possessed great influence amongst the chiefs of the Jats, so as to put him in a way of uniting his partisans, and joining the British troops.

334. The Governor General addressed a letter to the Ranah of Gohud to engage him to join us. Mr. Mercer was charged to send it to him, in case he should find that the junction of that chief might be of some importance.

335. The Governor General afterwards noticed the importance of concluding defensive engagements with the chief Rajahpoots of Jynegur and Jadopoor, for the exclusion of Scindeah from the provinces north-west of Indostan.

336. Previous to the date of the instructions transmitted by the Governor General to his excellency the Commander in Chief, his excellency the Governor General had addressed letters to those Rajahs, with the propositions of the British government for the conclusion of defensive engagements.

337. Copies of these letters were inclosed in the instructions



annexed to the letters addressed to Mr. Mercer ; and he was referred to these letters for information concerning the nature of the engagements desired to be made with those chiefs.

338. The general tenor of the propositions of the Governor General was, that in case of hostilities between the British government and Scindeah, the Rajahs of Jynegur and Jadopoor should act with all their means against the possessions of Scindeah and those of his allies ; that the actual possessions and legitimate rights of those chiefs should be guaranteed by the British government against every power who would attack or subjugate them ; and that these Rajahs should engage to conclude a perpetual treaty of defensive alliance with the British government, upon conditions, which might afterwards be agreed to, by the contracting parties.

339. The Governor General at the same time insisted, in his instructions to Mr. Mercer, upon the utility of establishing, with the consent of the Rajahpoots and Jats chiefs, auxiliary British troops in their respective states.

340. The Governor General then proceeded to make known his views and intentions with regard to Zeiboo-Neffa-Begum, commonly called the Begum of Sumroo ; the Begum's jaghire being situated in the Doab, the Governor General expressed his desire, to insert in every engagement agreed on by the British government, articles which might facilitate the introduction of British rules in this jaghire, in case the circumjacent parts of the Doab should pursue the system of government adopted in the British possessions.

341. The Governor General had, at different periods, received letters from the Begum of Sumroo, containing expressions of her desire to place herself under the immediate protection of the British

overnment ; but with regard to the situation in which the Begum of Sumroo stood, relative to Scindeah ; her proposition however desirable it might be, was unacceptable by reason of the peace and amity at that time subsisting between us and Scindeah. That he might not violate public faith, the Governor General had always refused her propositions ; however, apprising the Begum, that if an opportunity presented itself, the Governor General should be happy to have it in his power to accept the proofs of her attachment to the British government.

342. But Scindeah's late conduct setting aside all the objections stated against accepting the Begum's propositions, the Governor General wrote her a letter, in which he invited her to address herself to the commander in chief, to adopt measures for concluding an arrangement and connecting her interests with those of the British government ; the Governor General at the same time engaged to send a confidential agent to the camp of the commander in chief, to confer with him on these objects. A copy of this letter was transmitted to the commander in chief with separate instructions, the tenor of which will be found in the sequel of this dispatch.

343. The Governor General thought that it was of the greatest importance, that the detail of the measures prescribed by the instructions above cited, should be conducted under the inspection of his excellency the commander in chief. Mr. Mercer in consequence, received an order to repair to the head quarters of the commander in chief, when he should judge the negotiations relating to Bundelcund sufficiently advanced to permit him to join his excellency, and confide its continuation to the collector at Allahabad. Mr. Mercer was to receive from the commander in chief, instructions for his further conduct.

344. The instructions to Mr. Mercer abovementioned, are repeated in the Consultations, dated 3d March, 1804, No. 2, 2 A, 2 B, 2 C.

#### POWERS GRANTED TO THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

345. By a separate letter of the 27th July, the Governor General in council, invested the commander in chief with all the authority necessary for executing the operations, and concluding the political arrangements, prescribed by his instructions of the same day.

346. The letter to the commander in chief, which gives him the full powers for executing the projected operations, and concluding the political arrangements cited above, is founded on the same principles as the instructions sent to the honorable Major-general Wellesley, dated 26th June, 1803, investing that officer with full powers to undertake all the negotiations, and conclude all the arrangements, thought necessary to the success of the war, or the conclusion of peace.

347. The commander in chief was invested with the necessary powers for deciding on all the cases which might occur in the execution of the measures prescribed by the Governor General, and which could refer to the affairs of the Mahratta states, situated along the Jumna. His excellency was, however, advised to refer to the decision of the Governor General, all the affairs where prompt decision was not indispensable. The commander in chief was authorised, under similar restrictions, to enter upon and conclude negotiations with the Mahratta chiefs or jaghirdars, for fulfilling the aim of our alliance with the Peishwah, or facilitating the operations of the campaign.

348. The commander in chief was particularly vested with powers to treat with M. Perron, with the other European or native officers in Scindeah's service, with all the chiefs or rajahs of Bundelcund, with the rajahs of Jynegur and Jadopoor, with the other rajahpoots chiefs, with the ranah of Gohud and the other Jats chiefs, and with the Begum of Sumroo and the other chiefs of the Scheiks, on the principles laid down in the instructions addressed to Mr. Mercer, with which your honorable committee has already been made acquainted.

349. The commander in chief was also authorised to conclude an arrangement with his majesty Shah-Allum. From a letter already written to his majesty, the commander in chief was moreover authorised to treat with the inferior Mahratta chiefs, residing towards the north-western frontier of Oude, so as to prevent, in case of war, their junction with the confederate Mahratta chiefs.

350. The Governor General ordered the commander in chief to send copies of those instructions to Lieutenant-general Stuart, Major-general Wellesley, the residents at the different courts, and to the agent of the Governor General in the ceded provinces, with the invitation of their co-operating with the commander in chief on all the points relating to the full powers with which he was invested.

351. The commander in chief was invited to hold an unreserved and confidential correspondence with Major-general Wellesley. A copy of these instructions was transmitted to the commander in chief.

352. For the execution of the foregoing instructions, the commander in chief was authorised to require the services of all the civil officers, when he should judge it necessary to the success of the operations confided to him.



353. The instructions detailed in the preceding paragraphs are repeated in the consultation dated 2d March 1804, No. 5.

354. The Governor General now submits, for the inspection of your honorable committee, the separate instructions which he addressed to the commander in chief on the different branches of the general plan of operations, and on the political arrangements traced in the dispatch of the Governor General, dated 27th July, to the commander in chief.

#### SHAH-ALLUM.

355. By a separate letter, dated on the same day, the commander in chief was informed, in detail, of the measures he was to take in regard to his majesty Shah-Allum, and the royal family, in case his majesty and his family should be under the protection of the British government.

356. Persuaded that it was material that his majesty Shah-Allum should be informed of the favorable intentions of the Governor General towards him, his excellency wrote a letter to his majesty, purporting that, "in the present crisis of affairs, his majesty would, without doubt, find an opportunity of coming to place himself under the protection of the British government." His excellency assured his majesty, that if he would accept the asylum which the commander in chief was charged to offer, he would there receive all the attention and demonstrations of respect due to his majesty. His excellency added, that the British government would provide handsomely for the expenses of his family and his house. His majesty was referred to the commander in chief for farther details.

357. This letter was addressed to the commander in chief, with instructions as to the manner of having it conveyed to his Majesty.

358. With the view of preventing all the enterprises of the French officers charged with the Mogul's guard, and which, in case of the movement of the British troops towards Delhi, might conduct his majesty into a place, where he would be sheltered from the consequences of our power, the commander in chief received particular instructions to combine the operations of his army, so as to prevent the execution of that enterprise.

359. The Governor General observed, to the commander in chief, that the definitive arrangement to be concluded with his majesty Shah-Allum, would comprehend political questions of great national importance, which would be the subject of future deliberation; that, for the present, the intention of the Governor General was only to assure his majesty, of the protection of the British Government, and to assign to his Majesty and the royal family, an honorable pension for their support, the increase of which should be regulated by events. The Governor General expressed his opinion, that the emperor would not hesitate a moment to place himself under the protection of the British government, without stipulating for conditions. The apparent impossibility of his Majesty's escape from Delhi, to put himself under the protection of the British Government, was a circumstance which necessarily required to be taken into consideration.

360. The occupation of Delhi appeared to the Governor General, the only means of putting his Majesty under the protection of the British government. The Governor General notified to the commander in chief, that when this event should take place, it was his most sanguine desire, that his Majesty and all his family should taste the happiness of their change of situation, by receiving from the com-

mander in chief and from all those employed in the British government, every possible attention, all the marks of a respectful devotion, in short, all the respect and assistance suitable to his Majesty and the royal family, without however neglecting any thing to secure their persons. The Governor General charged the commander in chief, in case his Majesty Shah-Allum should come and put himself under the protection of the British government, to appoint a civil and military officer of high rank, to accompany his Majesty under the title of British Representative ; that officer to be provided with instructions for the conduct he would have to observe towards his Majesty and the royal family.

361. According to the resolution of the Governor General, to defer the conclusion of an arrangement with his Majesty and the royal family, the commander in chief received an order to refuse all negotiation with his Majesty. The commander in chief likewise received instructions to refer to the Governor General, all the propositions which his Majesty might make, and which would admit of delay in their decision. (Conference 2nd March, 1804, No. 6.)

#### BUNDELCUND-RAJAHPOOTS, AND THE BEGUM OF SUMROO.

362. The nature of the instructions given to Mr. Mercer, the substance of which is in the 322d paragraph of this dispatch, made it necessary to send them to the commander in chief, to enable him to assist Mr Mercer in his operations, and facilitate his execution of the measures prescribed in the said instructions. The Governor General, consequently, sent intelligence on this head to the commander in chief. The points to which he called his particular attention were, 1st, The guaranty of the engagements which Mr. Mercer concluded

with the chiefs of Bundelcund, by sending a military force, the amount to be estimated according to the judgment of the commander in chief.—2d, The conclusion of the arrangement with the rajahs of Jynegur and Jodapoor, for the purpose of inducing them to co-operate with the British troops against the Mahratta chiefs.

363. The Governor General in council has already made known to your honourable committee the contents of the letters addressed to the rajahs of Jynegur and Jodapoor, to prevail on them to co-operate with the English troops, and conclude treaties of defensive alliance with the British government. These letters were sent to the commander in chief, with orders to have them forwarded with celerity and secrecy. The instructions sent hereupon to the commander in chief may be found in the consultations, 2d March, 1804, No. 2.

364. The Governor General noticed to the commander in chief, that he had every reason to be satisfied with the dispositions that the rajahs of Jynegur and Jodapoor had manifested, of joining the British troops to shake off the yoke of the Mahrattas. The Governor General observed, at the same time, that the fear of M. Perron's resentment might perhaps prevent those chiefs from immediately showing their intentions; that the hastily sending an agent to negotiate with them might alarm M. Perron, and decide him to take measures for preventing their junction with the British troops; and that the fear of betraying themselves might perhaps prevent those chiefs from sending confidential agents to the commander in chief, which the letters of the Governor General might incline them to do.

365. The Governor General afterwards recommended to the commander in chief to communicate his sentiments to the rajahs of Jynegur and Jodapoor, and to write to them, to know whether



those chiefs, in compliance with the propositions of the Governor General, were disposed to join the British troops.

366. The third important object, recommended to the attention of the commander in chief, was the projected arrangement with the Ranah of Gohud. His excellency was authorized to regulate his conduct with regard to that and the other Jats chiefs, by the information he should receive from Mr. Mercer, as to their situation, their power, and their dispositions.

367. The attention of the commander in chief was, in the fourth place, directed towards the arrangement, which the Governor General proposed to negotiate relative to the Jaghire of the Begum of Sumroo. A copy of the letters written by her to the Governor General, expressing her desire of placing herself under the protection of the British government, and the answers of the Governor General, of which mention is made in paragraphs No. 340 and 341 of this dispatch, were sent to the commander in chief.

368. The Governor General communicated to the commander in chief the contents of his letter to the Begum. That letter included his excellency's acceptance of the offers made to him by the Begum, and is mentioned in the 342d and following paragraphs of this dispatch.

369. The Governor General recommended the commander in chief to direct the negotiation he might undertake with the Begum, towards the end of facilitating the introduction of British rules in her Jaghire, in the manner prescribed in Mr. Mercer's instructions.

370. The Governor General communicated to the commander in chief his intention of hereafter exchanging the Begum's Jaghire for a

pension, proportionate to her territorial possessions and their revenues, and to the services she might render the British government by her assistance and influence.

371. The Governor General pointed out to the commander in chief his intention that the Begum should be required to recall her battalions serving in Scindeah's troops, and employing her influence in the Doab favourably to the British government, as the only means of being admitted to the advantages of our protection.

372. For the most ample details on the instructions given by the Governor General to the commander in chief, his excellency refers your honourable committee to the consultations of the 2d March, 1804, No. 7.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF,

*When he shall have passed the Frontiers.*

373. The Governor General having already communicated to the commander in chief his general views and intentions with respect to the campaign against Scindeah in the north-west of India, afterwards thought it adviseable to lay down some rules for the conduct of the commander in chief when he should, with his army, have crossed the British frontiers. These regulations were laid down with the view of facilitating the successes of the British army, conciliating the affections of the inhabitants, and putting the commander in chief in a situation to insure the subsistence of his troops. For this purpose, the commander in chief was desired to promulgate a proclamation in his name, promising his excellency's protection in person and property to the individuals who might furnish, on reasonable conditions, grain, cattle, &c. for the British army, giving assurance

that no one should be molested unless taken in arms, and opposing the operations of the British army, by refusing it the necessary subsistence.

374. The commander in chief was recommended to turn his greatest attention to keeping order in the army, so as to conciliate the affections of the inhabitants of the countries through which it passed; and for this purpose the commander in chief was authorized to publish such regulations as he might think proper.

375. The Governor General conceiving that there would be found some tributary chiefs and principal officers of Scindeah, besides those spoken of in the instructions to the commander in chief and Mr. Mercer, who might desire to renounce their promised obedience to that chief, and might wish to throw themselves upon the immediate protection of the English government, and considering that the war about to take place was the result of Scindeah's conduct and aggression, he thought that advantage might, without injustice, be taken of the discontents and want of attachment of the subjects and officers belonging to that army. His excellency, therefore, authorized the commander in chief to give those tributary chiefs, and others who might break their oath of allegiance towards Scindeah, and afterwards zealously serve the British interests, a positive assurance of the honorable company's sincere protection.

376. The Governor General likewise thought it right to hold out to the inhabitants of that part of the Doab, subject to Scindeah and M. Perron, that tranquillity and security for their persons and properties which the inhabitants of the ceded provinces enjoyed under the system of the honorable company's administration; with the view of inducing the Mahratta subjects in the Doab to accept the protection of the British government. It also appeared material to the

Governor General, in case the army should advance into the country, to take exact statements of the revenues, with the names of those who possess them. The advantages of this operation were, 1st, To insure those resources for the continuance of the war; and, 2d, if that operation were conducted with just moderation, to attach them to our cause, and be the means of inducing a great number of the inhabitants to furnish the army with all necessary supplies, and facilitate the establishment of a barrier against every inroad into the British possessions, or those of the Nabob-Vizier.

377. To secure to the commander in chief the aid and assistance of all the civil and military servants on requisite occasions, the Governor General in council made a proclamation, whereby all those in civil and military employments, and all subjects of the British Government, were required immediately to obey the requisitions made them by the commander in chief. The Governor General has the honor to refer your honorable committee, for more ample details on this subject, to the consultations 2d March, 1804, No. 8 and 9.

#### GHOLAM-MOHAMED-KHAN.

378. On a re-perusal of the notes which were sent to his excellency the commander in chief, in the month of June, 1803, your honorable committee may convince itself, that the instructions above detailed to the commander in chief were founded on the same plan, and dictated by the same views, as the notes. The advices which the Governor General received from the resident at Scindeah's court, during the interval of time which elapsed between the date of the notes and that of his excellency's instructions to the commander in chief, fully confirmed the necessity of the measures which the Go-



vernor General had resolved to adopt for avenging the rights, and securing the tranquillity, of the British government and its allies.

379. The account of the conduct and transactions of Colonel Collins at the court of Scindeah, from the period stated in the 262d preceding paragraph of this dispatch, will be regularly continued in one of the following paragraphs. It is, however, convenient at this time to remark, that by a letter from Colonel Collins, dated 14th June, and received 6th July, this resident communicated some secret correspondence with the agents of Scindeah at Delhi, which proved that Scindeah's emissaries had recently gone to Gholam-Mohamed, a Rohilla chief, residing at Madaun; that M. Perron had addressed some letters to that chief, to invite him to come, with all his partizans, and join his army, by the way of Lahoumpore, designing to excite troubles in the Jaghire of Rampore, situate in the Rohilconde. General Perron assured Gholam-Mohamed of his protection and support, as well as that of Scindeah. This officer had also written clandestinely to the principal persons inhabiting the Jaghire of Rampore, to excite them to disturb the tranquillity of the company's possessions.

380. This intelligence was confirmed by advices continually and constantly communicated to the Governor General by the resident at Lucknow, and the government-agent in the ceded provinces of Oude. All confirmed the truth of the secret preparations of Gholam-Mohamed, for executing the project suggested to him by Scindeah and General Perron, to stir up troubles in the district of Rampore, and to interrupt the tranquillity of the company's and Vizier's possessions.

381. In consequence of this information, it became necessary to observe with vigilance the conduct and intentions of Gholam-Mo

hamed, and to take all proper measures for rendering his pernicious designs abortive, and for seizing upon his person. Gholam-Mohamed-Khan had remained some years at Nadown, under the protection of rajah Sunfur-Chund, proprietor of that territory. With the view of engaging the rajah, by motives of interest, to give up Gholam-Mohamed to the British government, or to keep that chief in prison so as to prevent the execution of his hostile projects, instructions were addressed (on the 1st August) to the resident at Lucknow, with an order to send a confidential agent to the rajah Sunfur-Chund, to regulate with him all the arrangements to that effect. A copy of the instructions, with authority to modify them, was transmitted to the commander in chief. The powers given to the agent employed on this occasion, and the instruction to modify the orders of the Lucknow resident, given to the commander in chief, were calculated for the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in Oude and Rohilconde.

382. The above-mentioned instructions are in the consultations dated 2d March, 1804, No. 10.

383. On the 26th July, the Governor General received from Mr. Leycester, the receiver of Moxadabad, copies of Scindeah's letters to Gholam-Mohamed-Khan and Bumboo-Khan, son of the late Zebeta-Khan, who possessed a district in the vicinity of Sohaumpore. These letters contained Scindeah's positive declarations of the determination he had of commencing war against the British government, and importuned those chiefs to join General Perron against the English.

384. These letters were communicated to Mr. Leycester by Bumboo-Khan, and were accompanied by offers of his service to the British government.

385. As it was of moment for the good of the service to insure the attachment of Bumboo-Khan, and take advantage of his good intentions, the Governor General thought proper to accept his offers, and wrote a letter to that chief, to inform him that he would accept of his services, and to promise him the protection and favour of the British government. (Consultation 2d March, 1804, No. 28, A.)

386. This letter was sent to the commander in chief, with a copy of the letters from the receiver at Moxadabad, as well as the pieces annexed. Joined to this were the instructions of the Governor General to regulate the conduct of the commander in chief, with regard to Bumboo-Khan.

387. The Governor General left to the commander in chief the care of employing, in the most advantageous manner, the means and influence of Bumboo-Khan for the advantage of the service. The Governor General also suggested to the commander in chief the idea of inducing Bumboo-Khan to seize on Golham-Mohamed-Khan, and give him up to the British government; or, if that were not possible, to prevent, by the forces he was to conduct to Perron's army, Gholam-Mohamed-Khan from joining the confederate army, or raising disturbances in the company's lands, and those of the Nabob-Vizier.

388. It was left to the discretion of the commander in chief to decide on what concessions should be offered to Bumboo-Khan; nevertheless the commander in chief was particularly charged to offer him a pecuniary recompence in case his excellency should think that offer more likely to interest him in favour of the British government.

389. Mr. Leycester's dispatches to the commander in chief, and the

instructions relative thereto, (Consultations 29th December, 1803, No. 1.) are entered in the consultations, March 2, 1804, No. 28.

390. Although the Governor General had no doubt of the authenticity of the letters from Scindeah to Gholam-Mahomed-Khan and Bumboo-Khan, notwithstanding he had only received the copies from Mr. Leycester ; his excellency, however, had thought it proper to charge Mr. Leycester to endeavour to procure the original letters from Bumboo-Khan. With this view Mr. Leycester was to send a confidential agent to that chief, with instructions accordingly. Mr. Leycester was authorised to offer Bumboo-Khan a large sum to get these important letters out of his hands.

391. The instructions of the Governor General to Mr. Leycester on this subject, as well as correspondent instructions to the agent of the Governor General in the ceded provinces, are in the consultations of the dates and numbers of the 29th December, 1803. — 4 A. 4 B.

### THE SCHEIKS CHIEFS.

392. Besides the numerous measures prescribed by the Governor General in his different dispatches to the commander in chief, and which have been already spoken of, his excellency thought it right to annex thereto new instructions, with the view of obtaining the co-operation of the principal chiefs of the tribe of the Scheiks, in the event of a war against the Mahrattas, and to prevail on the Rajah of Puttcalah to oppose the progress of Gholam-Mohamed-Khan in the Rohilconde.

393. For the detail of these instructions, the Governor General



refers your honorable committee to the minutes noted under date 2nd March, 1804, No. 11.

### LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SYMMEL.

394. The Governor General thinking that it would be necessary to put under the orders of the commander in chief, a person who could assist him in the conduct and execution of the immense operations confided to him; for that purpose placed Lieutenant-colonel Symmel near his excellency. Colonel Symmel, who, from a laudable zeal, had just given up his intention of returning to Europe for the establishment of his health, received orders to join the commander in chief with the least possible delay, to labour under his direction, at the political operations which he would point out. Unfortunately Colonel Symmel's disorder having assumed the most alarming appearance, it was not possible for him to repair to the camp of the commander in chief, and this officer, of such distinguished and acknowledged merit, found himself compelled to renew his demand for leave to return to Europe. The mission intended for Lieutenant-colonel Symmel, was assigned to Captain J. Baillie, in the same manner as had been regulated.

395. For the detail of the instructions of the Governor General to Lieutenant-colonel Symmel, his excellency refers your honorable committee to the consultations of the 12th November, 1803, No. 151 A.

396. The Governor General in council has now to communicate to your honourable committee, the substance of the instructions sent by his excellency to the commander in chief, on the military operations and political arrangements confided to his immediate superintendence in case of war with the confederate Mahratta chiefs.

397. The instructions sent in conformity to the plan of operations and arrangements established in the dispatch of the Governor General to the commander in chief, 27th July, to defend the line of frontier from Midnapore to Mirzapore; to succour our possessions in Bhugailcond, to carry on negotiations with the feudatory chiefs and dependents of the Rajah of Berar towards the western limits of the British possessions, and to occupy the province of Cuttack, will be detailed in one of the following paragraphs of this dispatch, with the manner of executing these instructions.

#### SCINDEAH.

398. The Governor General now thinks it proper to revert to the negotiations and steps pursued by Colonel Collins at the Court of Scindeah.

399. The interview of the two chiefs Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and the Rajah of Berar, took place on the 4th June, at Mulhapore, on the frontiers of the states of his highness the Nizam. (Consultations 2nd July, 1803, No. 1, 2.)

400. Colonel Collins, on the 5th, sent his native secretary, with his compliments to the Berar Rajah. The Rajah received the secretary with many civilities, and informed him that he had, the evening before, received a letter from the Governor General, together with the copy of the treaty of Bassein.

401. The secretary was informed by the Rajah's prime minister, that the letter from the Governor General was the first tidings that had been received of the conclusion of a treaty between the British government and the Peishwah; Jadoor-Row, Scindeah's minister to

the Rajah of Berar, having only said that the two powers were engaged in negotiating a treaty. (Consultation 21st July 1803, No. 4.)

402. On the 8th June, the Rajah of Berar and Scindeah had a long conference. To this time, all that had passed were mere ceremonies of etiquette. The day following, Colonel Collins sent a trusty man, a native of the country, to notify to Scindeah, that as he had just had a conference with the Rajah of Berar, it was indispensable for him to give a clear and unequivocal answer to the questions which the resident had put to him on the 8th May.

403. The answer to this notification was evasive. Another step, conducted by the same agent, and tending to obtain from Jadoor-Row (who accompanied the Rajah from Berar to Mulhapore, and took his place as prime minister of Scindeah's Durbar), some insight into the intention of Scindeah was likewise unsuccessful. On the 11th the resident addressed a memorial to Scindeah; the object of it was to make known to him the necessity of declaring his intentions, and to apprise him, that should he persist in his refusal of all explanation, he must quit the camp. The memorial was presented by the resident's native secretary. He was answered, that Scindeah was yet in want of another interview with the Rajah of Berar, and that an answer should be given without fail in two or three days.

404. The resident sent his native secretary to the camp of the Rajah of Berar, in order to acquaint him with the contents of the memorial addressed by the Resident to Scindeah, and demanding to know whether he had given an answer to the letter from the Governor General of the 13th May.

405. The native secretary explained to the Rajah of Berar, the tenor of the conference which had taken place between Colonel

Collins and Scindeah, and the subject of the colonel's memorial ; he added, that as Scindeah had referred the alternative of peace or war with the Company to the wisdom of the Rajah, he would acquire much more honor and glory in preserving the peace than in deciding the war.

406. The Rajah of Berar answered to this, that he could give no definitive answer until he was perfectly informed of the affairs in question, and of the demands made by the British government to Scindeah. He added, that he should not quit his position until some decision had taken place.

407. The native secretary informed the Rajah of Berar, that the British government demanded from Scindeah that he should not throw any impediment in the way of the execution of the arrangement concluded at Bassein ; and that as a proof of his pacific intentions, he should retire to the north of his states beyond the Nerbudda. He observed that Major-general Wellesley at the head of the Company's and Peishwah's forces, was marching towards the frontiers of the Peishwah, and that the British army was waiting only for Scindeah's answer on the question of war or peace. He besides added, that if the answer were delayed, the British government would regard such silence as a proof of hostile intentions.

408. The Rajah of Berar answered, that there was the greatest necessity that the resident should wait, not only the result of another conference between Scindeah and him, but also that of a conference which would take place between those two and Holkar ; because his consent was actually indispensable to deciding on the peace or war, and Serudhur-Punt, minister of the Rajah of Berar, proposed a suspension of hostilities between the British government and the Mahratta chiefs, until the result of the conference between the three



Mahratta chiefs was known. At this period Holkar was at a great distance from Mulhapore.

409. The Rajah's ministers then observed that the letter from the Governor General to the Rajah, asserted that Scindeah had approved the conduct of the English, and the march of their troops to Poonah, to restore the Peishwah; a statement which Scindeah had formally denied to Jadoor-Row.

410. The native secretary apprised Serudhur-Punt, that Scindeah had given his tacit approbation to the treaty of Bassein, in a letter to Colonel Cloué, received at Bassein, 3d March 1803; that Colonel Collins had a copy of that letter and could communicate it. A translation of the letter is in the consultations 9th March, No. 121.

411. The rajah of Berar, at the close of that conference, promised to give an answer to the letter which he had received from the Governor General, after a consultation with Dowlut Row Scindeah.

412. Colonel Collins having received a verbal communication from Scindeah, respecting the visit made by the resident to the rajah of Berar, the resident sent his native secretary on the 18th May to the Berar rajah, for the purpose of demanding a rendezvous for the day on which that ceremony was to take place; but the rajah did not appear disposed to receive the resident, and not only did he decline fixing a day for the visit, but even threw obstacles in the way of its taking place.

413. This conduct having appeared, to the resident, the result of a preconcerted intention between the two chiefs, for gaining time and humiliating the British agents, he, on the 19th June, addressed a Memorial to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, in which he acquainted him with his resolution of quitting Scindeah's camp on the 22d.

414. The answer to this memorial, and the assurance it contained, that he should have a satisfactory answer in the space of six days, induced the resident to wait the expiration of that term.

415. On the 25th June, Colonel Collins paid his first visit to the rajah of Berar, and took advantage of the opportunity to make some observations on the letter of the Governor General, dated 22d May, (the substance of which is related in the 247th paragraph of this dispatch and of which a copy was transmitted to the rajah by the resident); but when Colonel Collins was disposed to enter into a discussion on the subject of that letter, the rajah avoided treating of any business whatever.

416. The 28th, the period fixed by Scindeah for his final answer, having passed over, the resident sent his native secretary to Scindeah to remind him of his promise; the secretary learnt that the resident would be invited to a conference with the confederate chiefs, in which they would altogether declare their final determination. (Consultation 21st July, No. 21, 22.)

417. On this occasion, the said secretary presented a duplicate of the Peishwah's letter to Scindeah, announcing that his highness had entered into a defensive engagement with the British government. Scindeah and the ministers declared that the original had not been received, and Jadoor-Row observed that nothing could be founded on such a letter, until Scindeah had had an interview with the Peishwah.

418. In consequence of the promise made by Scindeah, on the 28th June, the Berar rajah withdrew his camp to a great distance from that of Scindeah. However, in compliance with his pressing demand, Colonel Collins obtained an interview with Dowlut Row-Scindeah, on the 1st July. (Consultations 11th August, No. 23.)

419. The resident made remonstrances against the fictitious evasions employed by Scindeah's ministers to avoid the execution of their master's promise given in writing.

420. He observed that ten days had elapsed without having received the explanation which had been promised him in fix, and declared that he would suffer himself to be deceived no longer.

421. The answers of Scindeah and of Jadoor-Row were still evasive, and in no wise satisfactory; every explanation on the subject of the menacing position of the confederate armies, and of the intentions of their chiefs, in respect to the treaty of Bassein, or on the question of peace or war, was deferred to another conference between Scindeah, and the rajah of Berar.

422. Notwithstanding the invidious and insulting nature of these answers, the resident, with a very laudable prudence, did not give up all hope of being able to bring the negotiation to an amicable conclusion. He consequently agreed to remain in Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp, upon the promise of Jadoor-Row, that the confederate chiefs should not delay beyond four or five days to send their determination; the resident, at the same time declared, that he could not be answerable, that hostilities might not take place immediately, in consequence of the threatening position of the confederate armies and the continual delays of the chiefs in communicating their resolution.

423. On the 4th July the resident assisted at a conference held in the camp of the Rajah of Berar, between that chief and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. (Consultations 11th August, No. 25.)

424. Colonel Collins, on this occasion, reiterated the motives he had previously developed, for proving the pacific dispositions of the

British government, and the friendly aim of the treaty of Bassein ; he supported the right of the Peishwah to conclude engagements independent of the interference of any subordinate chief whatever.

425. In answer to the observations made by the resident, Serudhur-Punt, prime minister of the rajah of Berar, complained of the irregular conduct of the Peishwah, who had concluded the treaty of Bassein without the concurrence or advice of the rajah of Berar and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah.

426. Colonel Collins observed to the minister that the dilatoriness of those chiefs in marching to the Peishwah's assistance had compelled his highness to seek the protection of the British government.

427. Colonel Collins afterwards repeated his demand touching the explanation of the intentions of the confederate chiefs, and after several discussions and evasions on the part of the ministers of the confederate chiefs, they declared distinctly to the resident that they had no design to oppose the engagements which the British government might have formed with the Peishwah ; they likewise promised that their armies should not advance to Poonah nor go beyond the limits of the Adjunttee-Ghaut. In consequence of these assurances they demanded the suspension of every ulterior march of the British troops. Colonel Collins replied that, to prove the sincerity of their dispositions, it was indispensably necessary that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah should repass the Nerbudda, and the Berar rajah should return to Nagpore ; and that in case they adhered to this proposition he did not doubt that Major-general Wellesley would, in turn, consent to withdraw his troops.

428. The resident left the conference without having obtained a



satisfactory assurance on the subject of the consent of the confederate chiefs to such an arrangement.

429. The 9th July the resident received letters addressed to the Governor-general by Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the rajah of Berar. (Consultation 11th August, No. 26, 28, 29.)

430. These two letters notified the receipt of the letters from the Governor-general on the subject of the treaty of Bassein.

431. The rajah of Berar had then received the letters from the Governor-general, dated 13th and 22d May; the substance of which is narrated in the 212th and 247th paragraphs of this dispatch; but the dispatch which his excellency had written to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, dated 11th June, on the subject of the treaty of Bassein, had not been delivered until the day after the date of that chief's letter which relates to a dispatch of the Governor-general on that subject. In these letters the confederate chiefs maintain that the general consent and concurrence of the principal branches of the Mahratta empire were necessary to the validity of every political engagement, whatever might be its importance, between his highness the Peishwah and a foreign state; but they, at the same time, declared that it was not their intention to annul the treaty of Bassein provided the British government and the Peishwah had no intention of annulling the engagement subsisting between the Peishwah and the Mahratta chiefs.

432. To be able to pursue the thread of the narrative of Colonel Collins's negotiations at the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, it is here necessary to disclose the information which his excellency the Governor-general had received on the 17th June from the receiver at Illahabad, as well as that which the Governor-general had consequently given to the resident with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah.

433. The result of this information was, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had addressed letters to Ghunne-Behaudur and to Hemmut-Behaudur, officers who exercise the primary authority for his highness the Peishwah in the province of Bundelcund, whereby he required them to prepare to co-operate with the confederate Mahratta armies to act hostilely against the British establishments; and that Dhurum-Row, an officer commanding a considerable body of cavalry, sent by Scindeah in the month of April to Kalpee, a station situated on the right bank of the Jumna contiguous to the British establishments, had received Scindeah's orders to act in a similar manner.

434. Having received this news on the 18th June, the Governor-general thought proper to order the resident to require of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah the avowal or disavowal of those orders; consequently, in a conference held between the resident and Scindeah on the 16th July, the resident communicated the substance of this news to that chief, and urged him to declare whether he had actually given orders of that nature. (Consultations 22d June, No. 163.)

435. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah assured the resident, in the most solemn manner, that he had never given an order of that nature either to the Peishwah's officers in Bundelcund or to Dhurum-Row; and that on the contrary he had particularly ordered the latter chief to respect the British territories. (Consultations 11th August, No. 57.)

436. The amicable language and conduct which Dowlut-Row-Scindeah shewed, in this interview, induced the resident again to recur to the return of Scindeah into Indostan; on which Scindeah's prime minister replied, that as soon as Scindeah and the rajah of Berar received favourable answers to the letters they had addressed to the Governor-general, those chiefs would return to their respective countries; and at the close of the conference this minister explicitly avowed that

the treaty of Bassein, far from containing stipulations prejudicial to the general interest of the feudatory Mahrattas, gave them more security, and this avowal was likewise confirmed by Dowlut-Row-Seindeah. These declarations appeared to the Governor-general to afford more satisfactory proofs that Seindeah and the rajah of Berar had not, to that time, manifested their disposition to satisfy the demands of the British government.

The Governor-general besides, was justified in believing, that, in the apparent disposition which those chiefs had then manifested, the firm and amicable representations and the declarations which Major-general Wellesley (in a letter written to the resident, dated 18th July, on the receipt of the instructions of the Governor-general, dated 26th June) had sent to the resident to be communicated to Dowlut-Row-Seindeah, and the Berar rajah, and of which a copy reached the Governor-general on the 9th August, from the resident at Poonah, and the substance of which is related in the 451st paragraph of this dispatch, would engage those chiefs to acquiesce in the just and moderate demands of the British government. In this state of affairs the Governor-general thought it advisable to send instructions to his excellency the commander in chief, adapted to the line which the operations of the commander in chief should take in the eventual alternative of peace or war. (Consultations 11th August, No. 59.)

437. The Governor-general consequently addressed instructions to the commander in chief, dated 10th August, authorising him to suspend the commencement of hostilities until his excellency had received advice, either from the Governor-general or some person invested with public authority in the Dekkan, until hostilities had actually commenced in that part, or until he had been informed of Major-general Wellesley's determination to commence hostilities as soon as possible. The Governor-general, nevertheless, authorised the commander in chief to begin to act hostilely, if that should appear to him necessary,

whether for taking advantage of circumstances, or of the position which the army under his excellency's orders might occupy, whether for preventing the army of Dowlut-Row-Seindeah, or that of M. Perron, from taking measures of whatever nature they might be, tending to embarrass his excellency's eventual operations, or contributing to the success of the armies employed against the British troops in case of war.

438. The application of these instructions to the circumstances which might ultimately arise, formed the subject of a later dispatch addressed to the commander in chief, dated 11th August. For the details contained therein, as well as for the preceding instructions of the Governor-general, dated 10th same month, we have the honor to refer your honorable committee to the packets of the 2nd May, 1804, No. 13.

#### HYDERABAD.

439. To follow the order of facts, the Governor-general finds it convenient to resume the operations of the resident at Hyderabad, and the affairs treated of at that court.

440. The Governor-general has already reported to your honorable Committee, in general terms, the progress of the affairs treated of at that court, in conjunction with those of the Mahratta empire, to the middle of May. In the interval between this time and the date of the above-mentioned instructions, few events of any importance occurred at Hyderabad. The resident's attention was principally turned on arrangements to be made with the court of Hyderabad, on the subject of supplies of grain for the auxiliary force under the orders of Lieutenant-colonel Stevenson. (Conference 22nd June, and 21st July.)



441. On the 29th May, his highness the Nizam signified his consent to receive a regiment of Europeans instead of the two battalions of native infantry, which the British government had engaged to furnish, to augment the force of the auxiliary corps. Mention has already been made, in the 116th paragraph of the present dispatch, of the measures adopted on the subject of that arrangement.

442. The resident's report of the dangerous state of the Nizam's health, demanded, that the resident should be furnished with instructions to regulate his conduct in case of the decease of his highness the Nizam. The resident was consequently authorised, in case of necessity, to address himself to Lieutenant-general Stuart, to Major-general Wellesley, or to Lieutenant-colonel Stevenson, to obtain the assistance of a military force. The necessary instructions were, in like manner, transmitted to those officers, to afford the aid which the resident might demand.

443. The resident's dispatches comprised in all the numbers and consultations of 21st July, 55. 9th May, 282. 22nd June, 126. 21st July, 39, contain a detail of the negotiations entered upon by the court of Hyderabad, with the view of detaching, from the service of Jeswunt-Row-Holkar, Ameer-Khan, a chief mentioned in the 127th and other paragraphs of this dispatch, who commanded an irregular army, amounting to 40,000 men, and who showed himself disposed to enter into the service of his highness the Nizam.

444. The Governor-general was entirely of the opinion which the honorable Major-general Wellesley had expressed, in his letters to the resident at Hyderabad, (copies of which will be found mentioned in the dispatches to which the preceding paragraph refers) relative to the propositions of Ameer-Khan, under certain modifications; and according to the instructions addressed to the resident at Hyderabad on this

subject 27th July : (of which mention has been made in the consultations 11th August, No. 3 :) nevertheless, this negotiation was not successful.

445. The obligations of the Nabob of Kumool, towards his highness the Nizam, in his quality of feudatory, having been transferred to the honorable Company, by the treaty concluded at Hyderabad, in October 1800, the Governor thought it right, by reason of the probability of a war with the confederate Mahratta chiefs, to require the Nabob of Kumool to fulfil his obligations to the British government, by furnishing a certain number of troops, to co-operate with the British army in case of war. The instruction of the Governor-general to the resident at Hyderabad, whereby he is ordered to send this requisition to the nabob of Kumool, is agreeable to those mentioned in the preceding paragraph.

446. In consequence of the information received by the resident at Hyderabad, from Lieutenant-colonel Stevenson, commanding the auxiliary forces, with his highness the Nizam, which implied, that no reliance could be placed on the officers of his highness for provisioning the British armies, the resident addressed himself to the court of Hyderabad, for the purpose of obtaining full powers for the honorable Major-general Wellesley, which would give him authority to make use of the resources which his highness's western provinces might offer for the public service.

447. The Governor General judging that these were very suitable measures (Consultations 11th August, No. 13) communicated his instructions to the resident, dated 12th August, of which mention is made in the Consultations 25th August, No. 4.

## ARMY OF OBSERVATION.

448. The Governor General conceives it necessary in this place to resume the operations of the army commanded by Lieutenant-general Stuart in person.

449. This army continued to occupy the position which it had taken at Moodgul (as has been said in the 133d paragraph of this dispatch) until about the end of June, at which period new circumstances (Consultations 21st July, No. 24 to 26) in addition to the arrival of a French squadron, upon the coast of Coromandel, induced lord Clive to order the return of the army to the south of the Toombuddra. (Consultation 11th August, No. 94, 95.) General Stuart consequently repassed that river in the middle of the month of July. The sudden departure, however, of the French army from Pondicherry, appearing, to lord Clive, to render less necessary the return of the main army, and the aspect of affairs, in the Mahratta empire, adding, on the other hand, to the necessity of reinforcing the division under Major-general Wellesley, (Consultations 29th December, No. 151, 153, 154) Lord Clive, adverting to the principal end which had led him to adopt the measure of having an army between the Toombuddra and the Kistna, wrote on the 28th July to Lieutenant-general Stuart, and enjoined him to detach two battalions to strengthen Major-general Wellesley, and to station an adequate force upon the frontiers, for the above-mentioned purpose. Lord Clive, at the same time, ordered General Stuart to return with the rest of his troops into the Carnatic. These instructions were executed by Lieutenant-general Stuart, who gave to Major-general Campbell, the officer left in command of the troops on the frontiers, proper instructions, for the regulation of his conduct in that command. General Campbell, conformably to his instructions, resumed his position at Moodgul. The Go-

vernor General, convinced of the importance of having a respectable army beyond the frontiers, while the army of Major-general Wellesley was advancing (Consultations 12th April, No. 86, A.) immediately after having been informed of General Stuart's return across the Tombuddra, issued an order, dated 30th July, to that officer, to fall back to Moodgul, or to any other station possessing similar advantages, in case our southern establishments should be in danger. These instructions did not reach General Stuart until the last disposition of the troops (Consultation 12th April, No. 87) concerted between that officer and Lord Clive, had already been carried into execution. Those dispositions, in every case, received the approbation of the Governor General.

#### MAJOR-GENERAL WELLESLEY.

450. Agreeably to the orders of the Governor General, communicated to Major-general Wellesley, in the dispatch to the resident at Poonah, 30th May, the substance of which is related in the 234th paragraph of this letter, Major-general Wellesley addressed a letter to Scindeah, dated 14th July, wherein, after having laid open the amicable object of the treaty of Bassein, and having remarked the hostile spirit of the measures adopted by the confederate chiefs since the conclusion of that treaty, Major-general Wellesley demanded the separation of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's army from that of the Berar rajah, and his retreat, with his troops, to the other side of the Nerbudda river. In this letter Major-general Wellesley declared that it was his intention to make the British troops resume their ordinary stations, as soon as Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had complied with that requisition. This letter was transmitted to the resident with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, accompanied by the instructions relative thereto. (Consultation 11th August 1803, No. 52, 53, 54).



451. On the 18th July Major-general Wellesley received the Governor General's instructions of the 26th June, the substance of which is given in the 275th paragraph. Immediately after receiving that dispatch, Major-general Wellesley addressed a letter to the resident with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, by which he was charged to apprise Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, of the power which Major-general Wellesley had been invested with, by the Governor General's letter of the 26th June. The resident was equally charged to demand of those chiefs the separation and return of their armies into their usual stations. Colonel Collins was in like manner charged to inform the confederates, that, in the event of their refusal, his order was to withdraw himself from Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp the following day. (Consultations 2nd May 1804, No. 305.)

452. The Governor General here considers it proper to turn the particular attention of your honorable Committee, to the honorable Major-general Wellesley's letter of the 18th July, by which he acknowledges the receipt of the instructions of the Governor General, dated 26th and 27th June; and the more so as that letter contains an accurate description of the present state of the Peishwah's government, and discloses the views and dispositions of the confederate chiefs. (Consultations 2nd May 1804, No. 304.)

#### DOWLUT-ROW-SCINDEAH.

453. The Governor General here takes up the sequel of the negotiations entered upon by Colonel Collins at the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. The resident having received Major-general Wellesley's letter, addressed to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, dated 14th of July, the substance of which is in the 450th paragraph, (Consultations 25th August, No. 78 to 81) imparted that letter to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah,

with a message which supported the representations it contained. Major-general Wellesley's letter, and the representations accompanying it, seemed to produce a favorable impression on Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, who immediately sent his prime-minister to the Berar rajah's camp, to consult that chief on the subject.

454. The resident likewise sent his native secretary to the rajah of Berar, with a message similar to that which he had sent to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. (Consultations 25th August, No. 82.)

455. The rajah of Berar showed no disposition to comply with Major-general Wellesley's demand, and referred the question for decision to the result of a conference with Dowlut-Row Scindeah, which actually took place on the 21st July, and the resident, on the morrow, addressed a note to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, wherein he demanded an answer to the letter from Major-general Wellesley. To this note no answer was given.

456. The resident having afterwards received Major-general Wellesley's letter of the 18th July, addressed memorials to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the Berar rajah, conceived according to Major-general Wellesley's instructions. (Consultations 25th August, No. 84 to 91.) In answer to these two memorials, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the rajah of Berar, informed the resident that the answer to Major-general Wellesley's demand still depended on a further conference of those chiefs. Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, at the same time, invited the resident to a separate conference for the 25th July, in consequence of a previous demand which the resident had made to obtain that interview.

457. In that conference the resident repeated to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah all the reasons and observations contained in Major-general Wel-

Wellesley's instructions, and urged the chief, Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, to comply with Major-general Wellesley's demands.

458. In answer to this demand, the following observations were made in behalf of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, by his prime-minister : 1st. The troops of that chief and the rajah of Berar were encamped on their own territories. 2. Those chiefs had solemnly promised not to pass the Adjuttee defiles, nor to march to Poonah. 3d. They had already given written assurances to the Governor General, that they would never attempt to overthrow the treaty of Bassein ; assurances which must be considered as unequivocal proofs of their amicable intentions.

459. In reply to these objections the resident repeated Major-general Wellesley's declaration, that it was impossible to place confidence in the promises and assurances of the confederate chiefs, so long as their armies occupied a position which was not necessary to their security, and which menaced the frontiers of our ally the Nizam. The resident afterwards observed, that if Dowlut-Row-Scindeah thought to derive any advantage founded on the justice of his present positions, or if it were necessary to the defence of his possessions, to leave his army in that position, that every respect should be had to these motives of convenience ; but it was obvious that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had no enemy on that side, and that far from deriving any benefit from his actual position, he had to support expenses beyond his means ; that he was exposed to the greatest inconveniences in his actual situation ; and that if he continued to stay there, it could not but be attributed to his hostile designs on the British government and its allies. The resident further observed, that Major-general Wellesley having been furnished with full powers in the conduct of political and military affairs, his letter to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah was equally valid as if it had been

transmitted by the Governor-general. Finally, the resident added, that he insisted on an immediate and decisive answer to the demands made by Major-general Wellesley.

460. The minister did not appear prepared to answer the preceding observations of the resident, and wished to avoid all further discussion on the subject, by promising satisfaction, in some days, upon what was demanded. The resident replied, that Major-general Wellesley's letter having been delivered five days, there had been sufficient time for deliberation; and that in this state of affairs the resident could not consent to any longer delay on the part of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. This declaration brought on a long discussion between the resident and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah; and that chief and his minister having finally and solemnly assured the resident of a satisfactory answer on the 28th July, in the Berar rajah's presence, (Consultations 25th August, No. 94), the resident agreed to wait until the day appointed, for their ultimate decision.

461. In consequence of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's solemn promise, made to the resident, to give him a decisive and satisfactory answer on the 28th July, the resident sent a message to ask the hour at which Scindeah would grant him the audience which he had promised for that day.

462. In answer to this message, the resident was informed, that Scindeah and the Berar rajah would hold a conference that same day; "that it was not proper for the resident to assist at this conference, but that he should be informed of the time which should be fixed upon to receive him."

463. The resident replied to this insolent message, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah had directly violated his promise; that he, the resident,



would wait until noon the following day, for a formal answer, and that if he did not receive it, he should send his tents off to Aurungabad, and himself leave Scindeah's camp the day afterwards.

464. In consequence of this declaration, on the 29th July (Consultations 25th August, No. 95, 96) was fixed on for the interview between the resident and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. The resident desiring to make a last effort to engage Scindeah to satisfy the demands of the British government, consented to stay his departure, and repair to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's presence on the appointed day.

465. The principal subject of this conference consisted in a repetition of former discussions. The minister declared that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah must anew consult the rajah of Berar, before he could give a decisive answer to Major-general Wellesley's demands, and concluded by intreating the resident to delay setting off, for two or three days at furthest. The resident did not conceal from Dowlut-Row-Scindeah (Consultations 25th August, No. 67) his conviction that the aim of the evasive conduct, on the part of that chief, was merely to gain time for the execution of some particular design; he added, that his orders from Major-general Wellesley were peremptory to quit Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp, as soon as he was convinced of the resolution of those chiefs to maintain themselves in their position on the frontiers of the Nizam's possessions, and that he should, consequently, be upon his route for Aurungabad on the 31st.

466. The resident immediately addressed a memorial to the rajah of Berar, (Consultations 25th August, No. 98) in which he communicated to that chief the substance of his last discussions with the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and apprised him of his determination to leave Scindeah's camp on the 31st July, unless he, before that time, received a satisfactory answer to Major-general Wellesley's demands.

467. In the night of the 30th the resident received a note, (Consultations 25th August, No. 100) in which Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, acknowledged the receipt of a copy of the resident's memorial, addressed to the Berar rajah, and invited him to join them in the Berar rajah's tents, the following day, with the intention of continuing the discussion of the affairs in question. The resident having been prevented by a heavy rain from going there, according to his intention, on the 31st (Consultations 25th August, No. 99) and having received from the rajah of Berar an invitation similar to that of Dowlut-Row Scindeah, gave way to their united solicitations, and joined those chiefs on the evening of the 3d July, under the Berar rajah's tents. (Consultations 25th August, No. 101.)

468. In that conference the same discussions which had taken place in the preceding interviews, were renewed, and were also followed by several successive propositions on the part of the chiefs.

469. Their first proposition was, that the united forces of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the Berar rajah, should retire to Bourhampour, and that Major-general Wellesley should withdraw, with the British troops, into their ordinary stations: that is to say, the British army should abandon the means it had by its position, of making a timely resistance to every hostile attempt on the part of the confederate chiefs, whilst those chiefs withdrew their joint armies to a short distance from the frontiers of our allies, ready to take advantage of the favorable season which was approaching, and of the absence and scattered state of the British forces.

470. This unreasonable proposition having been decidedly rejected by the resident, the confederate chiefs proposed that the resident should fix his own day for the march of the respective armies of those chiefs to break up the camp, and that the resident would pledge the

faith of the British government, that Major-general Wellefley's army should retire the same day on which the confederates commenced their return to their ordinary stations. The resident answered, that he was not authorised to pledge the faith of the British government to any thing incompatible with the instructions he had received from Major-general Wellefley.

471. Scindeah and the rajah of Berar offered, finally, to demand Major-general Wellefley, by letter, to fix a day for the retreat of his army, and the march of the confederate armies from their position on the frontiers of the Nizam, under the promise that, on the day appointed, they should infallibly begin their march. They afterwards declared that they would, in the same letter to Major-general Wellefley, demand him to specify the time in which the forces under his command might reach their ordinary stations, that the confederates might regulate their march so as to arrive at their ordinary stations precisely at the same time.

472. After some discussion the resident consented to submit this last proposition to Major-general Wellefley's consideration, and to remain in the camp of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah until the arrival of his answer; on condition, however, that Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's and the Berar rajah's proposed letters to that purpose, should be with the resident, to be sent to their destination, before noon the day following. Notwithstanding the amicable conclusion of this conference, and in direct violation of the conditions which their propositions contained, the confederate chiefs, in the letter addressed to General Wellefley and delivered to the resident, confined their offers merely to continuing to withdraw their united armies into the station of Bourhampour, according to the tenor of the proposition already discussed, and finally rejected by Colonel Collins.



473. On the receipt of the Berar rajah's letter, written in the terms above-mentioned, the resident immediately made preparations for quitting Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's camp, and began his journey to Aungabad on the 3d August. Colonel Collins necessarily placed the British government in a state of war with the confederate chiefs. (Consultations 25th August, No. 93.)

### MEASURES ADOPTED IN CASE OF WAR.

474. The instructions of the Governor-general, given before the receipt of Colonel Collins's dispatches, by which he communicated the last result of his negotiations, had provisionally prescribed all the measures and arrangements to be adopted to carry on the war with success, so that there was nothing more to add to it. The Governor-general, however, thought it necessary to repeat the conditions offered to the British subjects and native inhabitants of the company's establishments, in the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and his allies, which the commander in chief was ordered to promulgate, as is reported in the 297th paragraph of this dispatch, by proclamations emanating immediately from the supreme British authority in India. These proclamations were consequently printed and published at Fort William, in the English language, and in the language of the country, and were distributed to all the public officers, that they might, by their means, reach the parties interested. (Consultations 8th September, No. 116.)

475. On the 26th September the Governor-general published another proclamation relative to the actual existence of hostilities between the British government and the confederate Mahratta chiefs, wherein he likewise declared that all British subjects holding commissions or bearing arms in the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, or the rajah of



Berar, or their respective allies, during the war between the British government and those powers, or taking part in any manner whatever in the projects of those powers, or joining them during the war, would be guilty of the crime of high treason. It was declared further, by this proclamation, that all the British subjects who should not take advantage of the proclamation of the 29th August, before the 1st November, should be prosecuted as guilty of high treason.

476. Your honourable committee will, doubtless, know how to appreciate the salutary consequences resulting to the public interest from the measures adopted by the Governor General for the purpose of inducing the European officers and regular sepoys to quit the service of the Mahratta chiefs, and take advantage of the generous offer of the British government. The greater part of the European officers in the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah immediately left that chief's army, and were placed, with the exception of a small number, under the vigilant care of the troops in their respective cantonments. It is certain that several of the officers who quitted Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's service, and who were attached to the interests of their country, would have been forced, for the sake of subsistence, to support the cause of our enemies, had they not found a resource in the generosity of the British government and its offers. To this circumstance let us add, that the retirement of the European officers, in a moment so critical, excited among the Mahratta chiefs, and all the native powers, a general mistrust of the fidelity of all European adventurers; and it is not probable that any country power will, in future, resolve to employ them for the instruction and discipline of its army.

477. In considering the wretched situation of the European officers in the Mahratta service, who had, in great numbers, been authorised to enter it by the British government, and who saw themselves exposed to the alternative of the most cruel misery, or to that of sup-

porting the interests of enemies to the British power, it will be obvious to your honourable committee, that the proclamations emanating from the authority of the Governor General were equally just and politic. The public service has derived no little advantage from the zeal, activity, and local knowledge of the European officers late in the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah; many of whom have been successfully employed by the commander in chief during the last campaign in Indostan.

478. A great number of sepoy, composing the regular infantry of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, had formerly been in the honorable company's service, and had entered the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, when a considerable reduction took place in the honorable company's military establishments, on the conclusion of the late peace with France. The greater part of the families of those sepoy was established on the territories of the honorable company; and no sooner had it offered to employ them, than they voluntarily abandoned Scindeah's service to return back to that of the company. By this method the commander in chief succeeded, in a short time, not only in weakening the most formidable part of Scindeah's military establishment, but also in procuring an effective body of recruits, well disciplined by the officers of the company, and, at the same time, endeared to its service.

479. The Governor General will, hereafter, communicate to your honorable Committee the measures adopted by government in regard to the European officers who gave up the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, in obedience to the proclamations, in the advantage of which they have a right to participate.

480. Although your honorable committee may have already received the communication of great part of the details of the preceding

events in the letters which the Governor General and the Governor General in council has, at different periods, forwarded to your honorable Committee, the Governor General in council has thought it right to submit to your honorable Committee this connected narrative of the official pieces, with the intention of laying before it the most ample means of forming an opinion on every part of the events or operations of any importance, which have lately placed the British government in a state of war with the combined armies of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and the Berar rajah.

481. The military operations in Indostan and the Dekkan have, however, been already related in an accurate and connected manner in the dispatches of the Governor General in council, of the 25th September and 31st October, 1803, as well as in the Notes\* printed and transmitted to the honorable Court of Directors, dated 24th December, 1803.

482. On that account the Governor General thinks it superfluous to repeat, in this dispatch, the detail of the operations of the army, which took place during the war, and thinks it sufficient to refer your honorable Committee, for the detail of the operations, to the dispatches of his excellency the commander in chief, and to those of Major-general Wellesley, which contain the movements of the army. These dispatches are marked under the numbers and consultations of the 2d May, 1804:—15, 20, 24 to 27, 29, 31, 35, 36, 46, 51, 52, 56, 60, 68, 70, 73, 77, 78, 84, 87, 90, 92, 93, 96, 97, 102, 103, 105, 107, 108, 110, 111, 119, 120, 121, 123, 125, 129, 130, 135, 141, 147, 148, 156, 157, 159, 165, 168, 169, 174, 175, 180, 186, 190,

\* These "Notes," printed uniformly with this work, and containing six military plans of engagements, were published by Stockdale, London, 1804.

192, 195, 197, 199, 202, 211, 218, 228, 231, 232, 233, 239, 243, A 243, C 443. E.

483. The Governor General, however, thinks it his duty to lay before your honorable Committee that part of the operations of his excellency the commander in chief, and of Major-general Wellesley, which is not of military cognizance, and of which no mention has been made, either in the dispatches addressed to your honorable committee by the government, or in the printed notes mentioned in the preceding paragraphs. (Consultations of the honourable Major-general Wellesley 2d March, 1804, No. 320, 321, 330, 337, 338, 347, 349, 355, 363, 366, 366 A, 368, 371, 386, 387, 389, 392.)

484. The Governor General likewise thinks it right to observe to your honorable Committee, that the detailed discussion of the justice and necessity of the war in which the British government has been engaged against the Mahratta power, (discussion inclosed in our dispatch to your honorable Committee, dated 25th September) and the explanation which that letter contains of the sentiments of the Governor General in council, relative to the substance and details of the negotiation of Colonel Collins at the court of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, joined to the account of the affairs which are actually under the eye of your honourable Company, render useless every further observation on those different articles.

485. For the convenience of reference, the paragraphs of our dispatch, addressed to your honourable committee, containing a discussion on the subject of the justice and necessity of the war, are numbered in the margin. We have likewise the honour to refer your honourable Committee to the notes transmitted to the honourable Court dated 24th December, 1803, wherein your Committee will clearly see the



principal facts which have conduced to the cessation of all the relations of amity between the British government and the confederate chiefs. (Page 22, and following "Notes" printed in 4to. by Stockdale.)

### NEGOTIATIONS IN INDOSTAN.

486. Conformably to the intentions explained in the 483d paragraph, the Governor General has the honor to communicate to your honorable Committee the continuance of the negotiations directed by his excellency the commander in chief, and the happy success of the political arrangements prescribed by the instructions of the Governor General, sent to his excellency, bearing date 27th July, and by the subsequent dispatches of the Governor General to the commander in chief.

### MR. PERRON.

487. The first attention of the commander in chief having been directed, conformably to those instructions, towards the negotiations to be opened with Mr. Perron, the Governor General will, at first, communicate to your honourable Committee the commencement, progress, and result of the correspondence which the commander in chief had with that officer, as well as all the circumstances relating to Mr. Perron's submission to the British power.

488. It is proper to inform your honourable Committee that Mr. Perron, some time before the opening of the campaign, had addressed himself to the British government to obtain permission to enter the British territories, with the view of executing his intention of withdrawing himself from Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's service. This request

was immediately granted by the Governor-general, in a private letter addressed to the commander in chief, who had, likewise, transmitted his request by the same channel. Posterior events prevented Mr. Perron from profiting by that permission.

489. On the 20th August (consultations 2d May, No. 44) the commander in chief received a letter from Mr. Perron, wherein he expressed his surprise to see the British army advancing, and demanded to be informed whether the British government was at war with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. The contents of that letter appeared to indicate, on Mr. Perron's side, the intention of bringing about some accommodation, which might prevent an encounter between the British forces and those under Mr. Perron's orders. The commander in chief answered Mr. Perron by explaining, in a general way, the cause of the approach of his army, and begging him to send a confidential officer with whom his excellency might explain himself on the subject of Mr. Perron's letter. The commander in chief flattered himself that Mr. Perron would accede to the proposals which his excellency was authorised to make him, agreeably to the instructions of the Governor-general, as has been stated in the 320th paragraph of this dispatch.

490. On the 27th August the commander in chief received another letter from Mr. Perron, expressing his earnest desire to find some convenient means of avoiding the war, but nevertheless declining the proposition of sending an officer into the camp of the commander in chief, (consultations 2d May, 48, 50,) under the pretence that such a step would excite the jealousy of the court of Scindeah. Mr. Perron, however, required a confidential officer to be sent to confer with him. The commander in chief did not think it proper to comply with this demand. His excellency, in his letter to Mr. Perron, explained to him in general terms, that the aim of the conference which he desired with Mr. Perron had no reference to the public affairs of the British.

government and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, but to the private interests of Mr. Perron, and to the means of executing, with ease and safety, his design of withdrawing from Scindeah's service. His excellency repeated, that he was ready to receive an officer from Mr. Perron, but at the same time apprised him, that it was not his excellency's intention to renew his correspondence with Mr. Perron, unless he was willing to profit by the permission which had been granted, of sending an officer to the British camp; and that the situation of the British army, with regard to that of Mr. Perron, was such as to require immediate decision on the part of Mr. Perron.

491. Mr. Perron, in a letter in answer to that from his excellency, (consultation 2d May, No. 56 to 59) the substance of which is related in the preceding paragraph, declared, that it was his intention to stay in Scindeah's service during the present crisis, and that it was impossible for him to retire until his successor was appointed. He also added, that he would send his aid-de-camp, Mr. Bickett, to the British camp, to have a further explanation. The sending off this letter was delayed for several hours, in the hope of inducing the commander in chief, then posted a day's march from Mr. Perron's position at Coel, to defer his attack until another day.

492. Although the commander in chief was sensible that Mr. Bickett's mission was futile, after the explicit declaration of Mr. Perron not to quit Scindeah's service, his excellency, notwithstanding, made it known to Mr. Perron, that he was ready to receive Mr. Bickett, who consequently appeared before the commander in chief on the morning of the 29th August, whilst the army was on its march towards Mr. Perron's camp at Coel, in the Doab. Mr. Bickett repeated the determination which Mr. Perron had made, not to quit the Mahratta service, until he should be relieved by his successor. The commander in chief acquainted Mr. Bickett with the conditions on which Mr.

Perron might avoid hostilities, with advantage to his interests. After a vague conversation on Mr. Bickett's side he went away.

493. The defeat of Mr. Perron's army at Coel, and his precipitate flight, then suspended all further correspondence between Mr. Perron and the commander in chief.

494. However, on the 6th September (consultations 2d May, No. 57, 59) the commander in chief received a letter from Mr. Perron, by which he renewed his demand for leave to retire to Lucknow, across the company's territory. The motive alledged by Mr. Perron for this demand was, that he had just learnt the appointment and approach of his successor, and the treachery of his European officers. He, at the same time, requested permission to be escorted to Lucknow by his body guards, and that he might be furnished with an escort of British troops. The commander in chief judiciously granted Mr. Perron permission to pass over the company's territory to Lucknow, and authorised the escort of his body guards. The commander in chief required him to begin his march on the second day after receiving the permission, and to prevent his escort from committing any pillage. The Governor-general, from this moment, considered Mr. Perron's defection as an event extremely favourable to the success of the British arms, and to the interests of the British government in India. This event relieved the neighbouring states and chiefs from the fear they had of Mr. Perron's power, and encouraged them to manifest their desire to shake off the yoke of the Mahrattas, by uniting their forces to those of the English. It contributed also to lessen the confidence which the native powers were accustomed to place in the fidelity of their French officers. Agreeably to the permission of the commander in chief Mr. Perron, accompanied by his secretary Mr. Bickett, and Mr. Fleury (consultations 10th November, 73) crossed the company's territory and arrived at Lucknow on the 1st October.



495. The Governor-general having been informed of Mr. Perron's request for permission to repair to Lucknow, judged it necessary to give some directions to the resident at that city for the regulation of his conduct in regard to Mr. Perron and the individuals who accompanied him.

496. Although Mr. Perron, by the conditions contained in the letter from the commander in chief of 6th September, 1803, had no right but to the protection, merely, of the British government for the safety of his person, property, family, and suite, the Governor-general, nevertheless, thought it right to order that he should be treated, during his residence at Lucknow, with the distinction due to the rank he held in the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and that the officers who accompanied him should be received with the accustomed marks of civility and attention.

497. Mr. Bickett being a British subject, and having continued to remain in Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's service, after the commencement of hostilities, the resident had orders to signify to him that it was necessary for his safety to claim the favor of the proclamation by the Governor General, dated 16th September, 1802. (Consultations, 10th November, No. 66).

498. The resident was ordered, in his instructions, to hasten, as much as possible, the departure of Mr. Perron and his suite from Lucknow, and to make choice of an officer to accompany Mr. Perron on his route for Calcutta. The resident was likewise ordered to signify to the principal civil and military officers of the districts through which Mr. Perron must pass, that it was the intention of the Governor General that Mr. Perron and his suite should be treated with suitable respect, and their journey be rendered as easy as possible. The resident, besides, had an order to inform Mr. Perron that the Governor General

would consent to every arrangement suitable either for his return, or for his residence, under conditions which should be regulated, on the British territories in India.

499. Mr. Perron's stay at Lucknow having been prolonged beyond the time which appeared to the Governor General to be necessary, (Consultations 2d November, No. 193,) Colonel Scott had another order to urge his speedy departure.

500. Soon after his arrival at Lucknow, (Consultations 2d November, No. 196,) Mr. Perron addressed a letter to the Governor General (Consultations 10th November, No. 75,) whereby he informed him that, at the time of his having quitted Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's service, he had left in the hands of a native agent, besides his public property of great value, a sum of money, amounting to twenty two lacks of rupees, which was his private property; Mr. Perron added, that he had demanded this money of his agent, who had not satisfied the demand, alledging that it was in the fortrefs of Agra. Mr. Perron solicited, from the Governor General, instructions to the Commander in Chief, for the purpose of compelling the native agent to restore the private property which he detained, and to secure to Mr. Perron all the property belonging to him which might be found at Agra or elsewhere. Mr. Perron founded his pretensions to the interference of the British government for the preservation of his property, upon the permission which he had received from the commander in chief, under the authority of the Governor General, to retire to the Company's territory with his family, the officers of his retinue, and his property.

501. The Governor General thought it right to suspend his answer to Mr. Perron's letter until he had received the report of the commander in chief on the subject, together with copies of the correspondence which had taken place between the commander in chief and Mr. Per-

ron (Consultations 2d May, No. 151, 152,) before and after the arrival of the latter on the Company's territories. The substance of this correspondence has been reported to your honourable committee in the preceding paragraphs.

502. The permission granted to Mr Perron (Consultations 2d November, No. 197,) to return to the Company's territories with his family, the officers of his suite, his property and effects, in the opinion of the Governor General, imposed no other obligation on the British government, with regard to Mr. Perron's private property, than that of protecting all that he might bring with him upon the Company's territories; and gave him no right to claim the interposition of the British government for the protection of any property whatever which he might have left in an enemy's country.

503. Mr. Perron had been assured that he should continue to experience the protection of the British government for the safety of all his property, deposited or carried into the limits of the Company's territories, such as they were established before the war with the confederate Mahratta chiefs; but it was at the same time notified to him, that the Governor General could not consider the British government responsible for any property that Mr. Perron might have left on the territory of the powers at war with the British government. For these reasons the Governor General refused to comply with Mr. Perron's demand.

504. The arrangement made by the Governor General, on the subject of the distribution of the money found in the fortress of Agra, will be communicated by the military department; the Governor General, however, here thinks it proper to solicit the due attention of your honourable committee to the dispatches of the commander in chief, dated 22d October by which it appears, that the money de-

posited at Agra, was considered by Mr. Heflingue, who commanded the fort at the commencement of the war, and by all the European officers in garrison at that place, as public property; part of which has in fact been disbursed for the payment of the troops. (2d March, No. 161—163).

505. Mr. Perron, in company with Messieurs Bickett and Fleury, set out from Lucknow to the presidency, 8th November, accompanied by an European officer. He has since resided in the neighbourhood of the French establishment of Chandernagor. (Consultations, 9th December, No. 52).

### BHURRUTPORE.

506. The Governor General next communicates to your honourable committee the operations of the commander in chief, relative to the conclusion of the defensive treaties with which he was charged, with the chiefs of Indostan.

507. The first chief who took advantage of the British alliance was the Rajah of Bhurrutpore, one of the principal chiefs of the tribe of Jats, who possesses a considerable territory, and some strong places in the vicinity of Agra and Muttra, on the south-west bank of the Jumna.

508. Your honourable committee has been informed, in our dispatch dated 31st August, 1803, that his excellency the commander in chief had concluded a treaty of defence and guaranty with that chief, dated 9th October, 1803; and a copy of this treaty approved and ratified by the Governor General, was joined to that dispatch. It is consequently sufficient, on this occasion, to refer your honourable



committee to the copy of the treaty and other papers. (Consultations, 2d March, No. 139, 140).

509. The Rajah of Bhurrutpore sent a body of cavalry to join the army of the commander in chief, immediately after the conclusion of the treaty.

### MACHERRY.

510. On the 14th November a treaty of alliance was concluded by the commander in chief with the rajah of Macherry, or the Ram-Rajah, whose possessions are bounded on the south and west by the territory of the rajah of Jynagour, and on the east by that of the Rajah of Bhurrutpore. The local situation and resources of the Macherry territory, put the rajah of this country in a state to impede or repel every future incursion of the Mahrattas in the northern parts of Indostan. It was, in consequence, extremely beneficial to enter into a connection with this petty state; and the conditions of the treaty concluded by the commander in chief, with this chief, appearing to the Governor General very judicious, and agreeably to the general principles laid down by his excellency in his instructions, the treaty was ratified by the Governor General. The copy of this treaty, and the correspondence relative thereto, are mentioned in our minutes. (2d March, No. 177—179).

### RAJAHPOOTS.

511. The Governor-general attached particular importance to the formation of an alliance with the rajahs of Jynegur and Jadopoor, and with the ranah of Gohud. The local situation of the territories of Jynegur, Jadopoor, and Gohud, which are placed between the

northern provinces of Indostan and the Mahratta possessions in the Malwa, Berar, and adjacent provinces, rendered an alliance with this chief very important, in as much as it has accomplished the principal aim of the system proposed, viz. the exclusion of the Mahratta power from the northern part of Indostan.

512. The chiefs of Jynagur and Jadopoor, had long opposed a vigorous resistance to all the irruptions of the Mahrattas; but they were in the end constrained to give way to the superior force of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. At the epoch of the commencement of the last war, besides the regular tribute which those chiefs had agreed to pay, they were loaded with frequent exaction, and their territories were laid waste by the inroad of the armies of Scindeah and Jeswunt-Row-Holkar. These states, nevertheless, possessed considerable internal resources, which might reasonably be thought susceptible of enabling them, so soon as they were delivered from the oppressive yoke of the Mahrattas, and supported by the power of the British government, to become useful allies, either for pursuing the war, or for the future exclusion of the Mahrattas from the northern provinces of Indostan.

513. The substance of the letter which the Governor General had addressed to the rajah of Jynegur and Jadopoor, for the purpose of assuring us of their co-operation in the struggle which we were in expectation of, and to lay the foundation of a definitive treaty of alliance with those states, has been already reported to your honourable committee.

514. During a considerable time, the fear of the Mahratta arms, the death of the rajah of Jynegur, which happened 1st August, 1803, and the dissensions which followed at that court, prevented the state of Jynegur from entering into the negotiation with sin-

cerity and decision. The same causes had prevented the court of Jadopoor (whose rajah likewise died in October, 1803), from concluding a treaty with the British government. (Conference, 2d March, No. 130, 136, 137, 138, 173, 185; 3d March, 63 to 66).

515. However, immediately after the glorious and decisive victory of Laswaree, the rajah of Jynegur sent vakeels to the camp of the commander in chief, furnished with full powers for negotiating and concluding a treaty of defensive alliance. (2d March, No. 175).

516. These vakeels reached the British camp on the 25th November, and a treaty of defensive alliance between the British government and the rajah of Jynegur, was concluded 12th December, 1803. (Conference, 2d March, No. 185, 208, 209).

517. The example of the rajah of Jynegur was soon followed by the rajah of Jadopoor, whose views and interests are indispensably connected with those of the state of Jynegur; and a treaty was concluded 22d December, 1803, with the vakeel of the rajah of Jadopoor, on the same conditions as those of the treaty of Jynegur. (Consultations, 2d March, No. 215, 216).

518. The intentions of the Governor General from the commencement was to give additional security to the frontiers of the territories of Jynegur and Jadopoor, by the introduction into those countries of the British auxiliary forces. This measure was not, nevertheless, considered by the Governor General as a *sine quâ non*; and as those chiefs seemed to make important objections to it, the commander in chief gave up the point. The governor entirely approved of the motives which had influenced the determination of the commander in chief on this occasion. The treaties being conformable in all points to the spirit of the instructions of the Governor General,

were duly ratified by the Governor General in council. (Consultation 3rd March, No. 2. 2nd March, No. 217.)

519. Vakeels were received in the British camp on behalf of the Ranah of Oudypore, one of the principal Rajahpoots chiefs, and from the Rajah of Kotah, who possessed a territory south of Jynapour. (Consultations 2nd March, No. 215.)

The first of these dared not declare his desire of contracting an alliance with the British government, on account of his vicinage to Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, who was with a large body ravaging the territories of the Ranah. The commander in chief not being sure whether engagements contracted with these chiefs would accord with the views of the Governor-general, submitted the question for our opinion. (Consultations 2nd March, No. 119.)

The Governor-general being of opinion that if these chiefs were not included in the general alliance, the extent of the authority of Scindeah, of Holkar, or of Ambajee over them, might in the end weaken our barrier in that quarter, ordered the commander in chief to conclude, with the Ranah of Oudypore and the Rajah of Kotah, engagements similar to those which he had formed with the northern Rajahpoots chiefs. However, the peace with Scindeah, made before the conclusion of the treaty with these chiefs, has suspended the negotiation.

520. The Governor-general, by reason of the change of circumstances which has just taken place, thinks he needs have to fear for our interests, no prejudice on account of the projected alliance with those chiefs not having been carried into execution. The danger which the extent of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah's power would cause has been removed, if not wholly, at least in a very great degree, by the conclusion, with the latter, of a treaty of defensive alliance, which



presents an important obstacle to the aggrandizement of Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, and of every other chief or state in that part of India.

#### RANAH OF GOHUD.

521. Conformably to the instructions of the Governor-general, addressed to Mr. Mercer, the substance of which is reported in the 332nd paragraph of this dispatch; Mr. Mercer immediately on his arrival at Allahabad, opened a correspondence with the Ranah of Gohud, under the immediate direction of the commander in chief, for the co-operation of that chief with the British troops, to drive the Mahratta troops out of the province of Gohud. The Ranah of Gohud agreed, without delay, to the proposal of the British government, and having raised a body of troops, by means of a sum of money, which the commander in chief was authorised to advance with that view, he was actively and successfully employed during the whole war in combatting the enemy's troops, and did the duty of a faithful ally of the British government.

522. The country of Gohud having been placed entirely at the disposal of the British government by the treaty with rajah Ambajee, (of which a detail will be given to your honourable committee in the following part of this dispatch) a treaty was concluded 29th January, 1804, between the British government and the Ranah of Gohud, whereby the British government guaranteed to the Ranah the independent possession of the countries which have been assigned to him; and the Ranah agreed to keep up, under the name of auxiliaries, three battalions of the native infantry of British troops, and to pay an annual subsidy of nine lacs of rupees. The fort and town of Gwalior, were, by this treaty, ceded to the British government in

perpetuity. The remaining stipulations of the treaty are similar to those contained in the treaties concluded with the Jats and Rajahpoots chiefs.

523. A copy of this treaty, so extremely favourable to the interests of the British government, as well as to those of the Ranah of Gohud, is registered in the Consultations 2nd March, No. 234,

### AMBAJEE.

524. The Governor-general now proposes to lay before your honourable committee, the negotiations with rajah Ambajee-Ingliah, which brought on the conclusion of the treaty with that chief, to which the 522nd paragraph of this refers.

525. A considerable portion of the territories of Scindeah in Indostan, including the ancient possessions of the Ranah of Gohud, has been put under the exclusive dominion of Ambajee.

526. In the month of October, 1803, the government Persian secretary was informed, by a channel entitled to credit, of the views and intentions of Ambajee, in the actual state of affairs between the British government and Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. These advices imported that Ambajee had made a direct proposal to shake off his fidelity to Scindeah, put himself under the protection of the British government, and become tributary to this government upon certain conditions.

527. A note relative to this intelligence (Consultations 2nd March, No. 34. 34 B.) with the instructions of the Governor-general on the subject of a treaty with Ambajee, was transmitted to his excellency

the commander in chief, who had received, by the way of an agent of Ambajee, propositions of the same nature. Some accredited vakeels arrived at the camp of the commander in chief at the end of October.

528. Your honourable committee will observe that Ambajee's proposal to become tributary to the British government for all the country under his dominion, was incompatible with the instructions of the Governor-general, in regard to the Ranah of Gohud, whose possessions, at least those which he had inherited from his ancestors, were included in the districts under the dominion of Ambajee. The Governor-general, therefore, proposed (Consultations 2nd March) to compensate Ambajee's loss of the portion of territory under his dominion, which the Governor-general intended to assign to the Ranah of Gohud, by guaranteeing to Ambajee the independent possession of the rest of his territories, and by admitting him to the advantages of an alliance, founded on the same principles as the engagements to be concluded with the Rajahpoots and Jats states.

529. According to this plan (Consultations 3rd March, No. 101, 104) the commander in chief opened a negotiation with Ambajee, on the principles above mentioned; and after considerable delay and systematic evasions on the part of Ambajee, a treaty was concluded by the commander in chief with that chieftain, 16th December, 1803, (Consultations 2nd March, No. 213, 214) by virtue of which all the territory in his possession, situated northward of Gwalior, including the fort, was ceded to the British government, which, on its side, guaranteed to Ambajee the independent possession of all the remaining territory which had been under his dominion.

530. For the detail of this treaty (Consultations 2nd March, 217) entirely approved and ratified by the Governor-general, and of the

explanatory letter of his excellency the commander in chief, the Governor-general refers your honourable committee to the copies of those papers mentioned in our register of the 2nd March.

531. Immediately after the conclusion of the treaty with Ambajee (Consultations 2nd March, 213) the commander in chief detached a corps under Lieutenant-colonel White, to take possession of Gwalior, according to the orders which were given in consequence, on the part of Ambajee.

532. With the design of enforcing the strict execution of the stipulations of the treaty on the part of Ambajee, and to determine the arrangements with regard to the Ranah of Gohud, Mr. Mercer was ordered by the commander in chief to accompany the detachment to Gwalior.

533. Nevertheless the Governor-general was, in the sequel, informed by private advices from Mr. Mercer, that the commandant of the fortress of Gwalior had refused to give it up, conformably to the treaty of alliance concluded between the British government and the rajah Ambajee. The Governor-general, therefore, judged it necessary to send, immediately, instructions to Mr. Mercer, (Consultations 3rd March, No. 222) to regulate his conduct on that occasion, and prevent a delay which would have occasioned recourse to the commander in chief.

534. It was so indubitably the interest of rajah Ambajee to adhere to the faithful execution of his engagements contracted with the British government, that the Governor-general was disposed not to throw, on that chief, the blame of the refusal by the commandant of Gwalior, to give up the fortress. The Governor-general, nevertheless, observed, that the stipulation inserted in the treaty relative to the



surrender of Gwalior, supposed the power, as well as the will, to operate the submission of the place to the English government, without its being compelled to employ force; that in the confidence of an immediate and undisputed surrender of the fortrefs of Gwalior, we had acceded to the stipulations of the treaty in favour of rajah Ambajee, and that, in consequence, unless the stipulations were strictly executed, the obligation on the part of the British government to fulfil the treaty, would cease.

535. The Governor-general ordered Mr. Mercer, in case the fortrefs of Gwalior were not surrendered on receipt of this dispatch, to communicate the preceding observation to rajah Ambajee, and let him know that on his failure in executing the fundamental article of the engagements concluded with him, those engagements would become void, and that the British government would be free to adopt such measures as might appear advantageous for the public interest, without any reference to the conditions of the treaty.

536. The same instructions were judged applicable to the case of our being compelled to occupy Gwalior by force of arms.

537. Similar instructions were at the same time given by the Governor-general to the commander in chief. The Governor-general therein expressed his opinion, that although the alliance concluded with the Rajah Ambajee ought to be dissolved, that, nevertheless, some arrangement should be entered into with him, whereby that chief should be guaranteed in the independent possession of part of the territory under his dominion. The Governor-general, consequently, authorised the commander in chief, if it were necessary, to renew the negotiation with Ambajee on this subject, unless the commander in chief had any reason to believe that the conduct of the commandant

of Gwalior had been clandestinely influenced by Ambajee, the Governor-general regarding such treachery as a decisive reason for doing away all confidence in any treaty whatever with Ambajee.

538. The Governor-general observed, in the same instructions, that in case the engagements lately contracted with Ambajee were dissolved, the British government would be justified in proposing to him conditions less favourable than those which formed the basis of the late engagements; and the Governor-general suggested to the commander in chief to take advantage of the renewal of a negotiation with Ambajee, to obtain a compensation for the wrong which the British government had received by the violation of the treaty on the part of Ambajee, or by his want of power to fulfil its stipulations. The Governor-general, in like manner, suggested to the commander in chief the mode of limiting the extent of territory which should be guaranteed to Ambajee, by the stipulations of a new treaty, according as the domains of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah might be regulated, at the conclusion of peace with that chief.

539. Upon the refusal of the commandant of Gwalior to surrender that fortress to the British troops under Lieutenant-colonel White, that officer immediately prepared to take possession of the city of Gwalior, with the design of intimidating the garrison, as well as to prevent all communication between the town and fort.

540. The commander in chief having been informed of the refusal the garrison had made to surrender (consultation 2d March, 232), detached a considerable reinforcement of European and native infantry, with siege artillery, to join Lieutenant-colonel White, who was, besides, authorised to call in a reinforcement serving in Bundelcund. On the junction of the reinforcements, Colonel White opened his batteries against the fort (conference 2d March,

No. 242, A.), and on the 4th February, a breach having been effected, the garrison offered to surrender, on condition of receiving a *douccur* of 50,000 rupees (conference 2d March, No. 242, A, and 243, a\*). This proposal was rejected by Mr. Mercer and Colonel White; but another arrangement was afterwards made, by which the garrison should receive the value of certain articles and stores. The British troops took possession of all the gates in the night of the 4th, and on the 5th February the fort was evacuated.

541. The possession of this important fortress, which commands the entrance to Indostan on this side, and defends the frontiers of Gohud, entirely completed the views of the Governor-general, in respect to this important branch of the general plan of operations.

542. On the 11th February (conference 3d March, No. 241, 242), Mr. Mercer communicated to Ambajee the sentiments and resolution of the Governor-general, stated in the instructions to which the 535th paragraph refers. Ambajee in his answer (conference 3d March, No. 243), expressed no surprise at the measures taken by order of the Governor-general, and showed no disposition to palliate his conduct, or establish the validity of his engagements contracted with the British government.

543. Although neither the Governor-general, nor the commander in chief (conference 2d March, No. 222, 231, 232), had at first attributed to the treachery of Ambajee the conduct of the commandant of Gwalior (conference 3d March, No. 235), nevertheless, in the sequel, circumstances appeared to substantiate evident proofs of treachery on Ambajee's part (conference 2d March, No. 250), and they were confirmed by his conduct, when that chief received intelligence of the conclusion of the peace with Scindeah (conference 3d March, No. 241 to 244).

544. Your honorable committee will have observed that the commander in chief was informed (consultations 3d March, No. 235), by Mr. Mercer, of the conclusion of the peace with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, before the surrender of Gwalior (consultations 2d March, No. 239), and that the same news reached the Governor-general before he had any knowledge of the last event (consultations 2d March, No. 238, A.).

545. The Governor-general being invariably of opinion that the rights of the British government, acquired by virtue of the treaties made with Ambajee and the Ranah of Gohud, were acknowledged and confirmed by the 9th article of the treaty of peace with Scindeah, and that the most advantageous construction of that treaty could not impose on the British government the necessity of abandoning the advantages resulting from the treaty concluded with Ambajee, nor exempt the British government from the engagements which it had contracted with the Ranah of Gohud, in the conviction that Ambajee should adhere to his promises; his excellency in council immediately sent instructions to the commander in chief to press the siege of Gwalior without interruption, and to continue to occupy the territories which had been made over to the Ranah of Gohud by the treaty concluded with that chief. (Consultations 2d March, No. 238, A.)

546. His excellency the commander in chief having entertained some doubt on the subject of the true sense of the 2d and 9th articles of the treaty of peace (consultations 2d March, No. 239), the Governor-general explained their meaning in a separate letter, which he wrote to the commander in chief, dated 20th February. (Consultations 2d March, No. 243.)

547. The Governor-general desires your honorable committee to direct its whole attention to the above-mentioned instructions, given



to the commander in chief and to Mr. Mercer, to see therein the principles whereby his decision on that important question was regulated. (Consultations 3d March, No. 122 ; and 2d March, No. 231.)

548. The discussions which have arisen with the durbar of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, on the subject of Gohud and Gwalior, and the final resolve of the Governor-general on the whole of that question, will be laid before you more fully in a separate dispatch, which the Governor-general intends to address, exclusively, to your honorable committee, relating to the peace concluded with the confederate chiefs.

#### THE BEGUM OF SUMROO.

549. The instructions of the Governor-general, given to the commander in chief, with regard to Zeib-Oonissa-Begum, commonly called the Begum of Sumroo, who possesses a considerable jaghire under the Mahratta government, in the Doab of the Jumna and the Ganges, and in the centre of the territory before occupied by M. Perron, have already been completely reported to your honorable committee in the preceding part of this dispatch.

550. In these instructions the Governor-general expressed to the commander in chief his wish to acquire the Begum's jaghire, by means of a suitable indemnity, seeing that the transfer of her jaghire to the company was an object of great importance to the British government, for re-establishing tranquillity in the Doab, and for completing the introduction of the English system of laws and regulations into that country.

551. The territory placed at the disposal of the British govern-

ment, by the glorious success of our arms at the battle of Delhi, furnished us with the means of assigning to the Begum a territory on the western part of the Jumna, instead of the jaghire which she possessed in the Doab. The Governor-general, consequently, in a letter containing instructions given by the Governor-general to Mr. Mercer, upon different details relative to the duties of his mission, authorised his excellency the commander in chief to propose to the Begum, to remove her establishment to the opposite bank of the Jumna.

552. The Governor-general, on the 5th December, received dispatches from the commander in chief, by which he learned the Begum's consent to the proposed change of her establishment, and the orders given by her for recalling her battalions from the service of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. The Begum at the same time assured his excellency the commander in chief, through the officer left at Delhi, near the person of his majesty Shah-Allum, that she had given the orders in question immediately after the requisition had reached her from the commander in chief, when his excellency had sent her the letter of the Governor-general. The dispatches from the commander in chief contained also a letter from the Begum, addressed to the Governor-general, and inclosing her consent to the arrangement proposed.

553. The Governor-general thinking that the Begum's conduct on that occasion was deserving of the approbation of the British government, adopted the proposition which the commander in chief had submitted to her in his dispatches (consultations 2d March, No. 184), relative to the guaranty, which should be accorded to the Begum, for the independent possession of the territory to be assigned as an indemnity for her jaghire, upon the ordinary condition of mi-

litary service, and required the commander in chief to take the necessary measures for making over the territory which should be ceded to the Begum, on the western bank of the Jumna. His excellency, at the same time, received the order for adopting immediate dispositions to introduce the British authority into the Begum's first jaghire, and to press its renunciation, without waiting for the actual cession of the territory situate on the western bank of the Jumna; an arrangement to which she gave her consent. Divers circumstances have, however, hitherto prevented the choice and cession of the territory to be assigned in exchange for her jaghire; but it is the intention of the Governor-general to hold himself accountable to the Begum for the revenues arising from her jaghire, during the whole time which shall have elapsed, since the British government took possession, until the occupation, by the Begum, of an equivalent territory upon the western bank of the Jumna. The Begum's troops joined the commander in chief in the month of December, after a long and difficult march, which they made in coming from the Dekkan. (Consultations 2d March, No. 287, 288.)

### SCHEICKS.

554. The 392d and 393d paragraphs of this dispatch contain the instructions given by the Governor-general to his excellency the commander in chief, relative to the means of conciliating the friendship of the principal Scheicks chiefs on the engagements to be concluded with them. The nature of the operations of the commander in chief gave him no opportunity to accomplish the end proposed by those instructions. The principal objects were, in fact, obtained by the neutrality of the Scheicks chiefs during the war, which may in a great degree be attributed to the rapid progress and glorious triumphs of the British arms.

555. The commander in chief, however, as has been already stated to your honorable committee in our dispatches of the 25th September, 1803, received proposals on behalf of Runjeet-Sing, rajah of Lahore, to cede to the British government the territory possessed by some chiefs of the tribe of Scheicks, situate south of the river Sutlege, upon condition of a defensive alliance against the respective enemies of those chiefs, and of the British nation.

556. It was not, however, to the advantage of the British government to possess territory in that part, although the power of disposing of it would have facilitated the arrangements which it might have had to make afterwards; but the Governor-general had doubts of the right of the rajah Runjeet-Sing to transfer that territory; and in all events, the Governor-general was apprehensive, that if he disposed of that territory, it would become necessary, for the attainment of his object, to employ force against those chiefs who would not confirm the arrangement, and likewise to alienate those even that the Governor-general had principally in view to conciliate. His excellency, therefore, thought it sufficient that the amicable dispositions of Runjeet-Sing, manifested by his proposals, were encouraged, without concluding any positive engagement with that chief. The Governor-general also received a letter from the rajah Saheb-Sing, chief of Puttecalah, whereby he testified his friendly dispositions to the British government.

#### SHAH-ALLUM.

557. The Governor General is now about to report to your honorable committee the circumstances relating to the enfranchisement of the emperor Shah-Allum from the cruel servitude in which he was held by the Mahratta and French power; and to the re-esta-



blissment of that old and venerable monarch in his authority, under the protection of the British government, as well as in his dignity and rights.

558. The letter which his excellency the Governor-general addressed to his majesty Shah-Allum, (the substance of which is reported in the 356th paragraph of this letter,) was secretly transmitted by the commander in chief to Sind-Rezza-Khan, agent of the resident, to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, at Delhi, to be put into his majesty's hands. It was accompanied by a letter from the commander in chief, wherein he expressed his sincere wish to shew his majesty all the respect and attachment which was due to him. The greatest secrecy was recommended to Sind-Rezza-Khan, in the means of remitting these letters. (Conference 2nd March, No. 22, 23.)

559. On the 29th August the commander in chief received, by the channel of Sind-Rezza-Khan, the answer of Shah-Allum to the letter of the Governor-general. His majesty therein expressed his ardent desire to take the benefit of the protection of the British government.

560. The commander in chief, on the 1st September, received a letter from Sind-Rezza-Khan, under his majesty's seal, addressed to the Governor General, by which his majesty declared, that he had confided the direction of all his affairs to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah and M. Perron, as Scindeah's delegate. He also therein announced his intention of taking the field in person, and requested the Governor-general to forbid the further continuation of military operations.

561. It is proper to inform your honorable committee, that the dispatch of the letters proceeding from his Majesty, has been throughout liable to the inspection of the officers stationed at Delhi by Dow-

lut-Row-Scindeah, and placed there under the immediate authority of Mr. Perron. His majesty was never permitted to forward any letter that was not dictated or approved of by those officers. The answer which the Governor-general received to the letter he had written to the king was prepared and sent off clandestinely. If to this circumstance is added the state of misery and distress in which this unfortunate monarch had so long existed, and his majesty's impatience to be delivered from the oppressive yoke and barbarous power of the Mahrattas, who wished to conceal any supposition other than that the letter mentioned in the preceding paragraph had been written and dispatched by the voluntary order of his majesty ; or that the declarations and intimations which it contained, accorded with his majesty's real desire and designs ; so many considerations, added to the tokens which the commander in chief had received from Sind-Rezza-Khan, incontestably prove that the letter in question had, in fact, been dictated by the French officers at Delhi.

562. A letter written for the same purpose, and addressed by his majesty to the Nabob-Vizier, was transmitted by the Vizier to the resident at Lucknow, and Sind-Rezza-Khan informed the commander in chief, that his majesty had publicly declared, that his intention was to address similar letters to all the chiefs in Indostan. These demonstrations had all been evidently suggested by the French officers at Delhi ; and subsequent events prove the accuracy of the opinion entertained of his majesty's earnest desire to place himself under the protection of the British power.

563. Sind-Rezza-Khan having been forced to quit Delhi, by the violence of the French officers, took refuge in the camp of the commander in chief, and gave a favourable account of the dispositions of his majesty and of his court towards the British power.

564. All the measures of the French and other adherents of Dow-

lut-Row-Scindeah, tending to prevent his majesty from accepting the protection of the British government, remained, notwithstanding, ineffectual, by means of the signal and decisive success of our arms at the memorable battle of Delhi, gained on the 11th September, 1803. Immediately after that event the commander in chief was informed, that the emperor sincerely desired to put himself under the safeguard of the British government. (Consultations 2nd June, No. 109.)

565. On the 16th September the commander in chief, accompanied by the principal officers of his army, paid a visit to the Emperor Shah-Allum, at the royal palace in the fortress of Delhi. For that purpose his majesty's eldest son, Mirza-Akber-Shah, the presumptive heir, repaired to the British camp, and introduced his excellency the commander in chief into the presence of his majesty, who received him sitting upon his throne. His majesty and the whole court expressed the greatest joy at an event which placed his majesty and the Royal family under the protection of the British government. (Consultations 2nd March, No. 109.)

566. Soon after the arrival of the commander in chief at Delhi, his excellency was informed that a sum of money, amounting to six lacs of rupees, the property of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, was in the hands of M. Dugeon, the commandant of Delhi, destined for the payment of the troops. M. Dugeon had disbursed of that sum 60,000 rupees for the payment of his troops, and on the approach of the British army, had deposited the remainder with Shah-Novarez-Khan, his majesty's treasurer, under the idea of preventing that money from falling into the hands of the commander in chief. (Consultations 2d March, No. 113.)

567. His excellency, convinced that the money in question was the public property of the enemy, and that the deposit of that property in the hands of the treasurer to his majesty, had no

other view but that of depriving the British government of the benefit of the capture, thought it his duty to reclaim that property, as belonging to the British power. The demand was made in the most respectful manner, and with every regard due to his majesty's dignity. After some reflection, the emperor sent the money to the camp of the commander in chief, with a message begging his excellency's acceptance of the money, as an offering to the brave army whose valorous conduct has delivered his majesty from the yoke of the French and Mahratta power, and placed him under the protection he had long desired, and the generous support of the British government. (Conference 2d March, No. 214.)

568. The commander in chief received the money, and referred its disposal to the orders of the Governor General.

569. The emperor, at the same time, addressed a letter to the Governor General, wherein he informed him of the gift he had just bestowed on the British army. (Conference 2d March, No. 114, 114 A.)

570. The Governor General, without delay, communicated his sentiments and instructions on the affairs in question, to the commander in chief.

571. The Governor General, in his instructions, expressed his positive opinion, that the whole sum of six lacs of rupees, as well as the remainder of that sum, after deducting the disbursement made to Scindeah's troops, was certainly a public property of the enemy, and that whatever part of that property might be found in the hands of M. Dugeon, or of any other officer, soldier, or subject of the enemy, must on every principle of justice, be adjudged as a lawful capture to the British government. (Conference 2d March, No. 215.)



572. The Governor-general observed, that the fraudulent deposit of the enemy's property in the hands of the officers of his majesty Shah-Allum, could in no wise either change the nature of that property, or prevent it being a good right of capture to him who had just conquered the enemy's troops under the walls of Delhi, and who, pursuing that glorious victory, had taken possession of the city and fortrefs, previously occupied by a division of the hostile army ; that no circumstance gave room for supposing that this deposit was intended for the service of his majesty, although it was placed in the hands of the first officer of his treasury : that the state of indigence and misery to which his majesty, his royal family, and suite, had been so long reduced under the Mahratta dominion ; the degraded situation of the imperial house of Timour under the power of Scindeah's officers, and in which state of degradation the commander in chief had found the emperor upon his entrance into Delhi ; could not let it possibly be admitted that M. Dugeon had ever intended so considerable a sum for the alleviation of the sufferings of Shah-Allum and his impoverished court. That the aim of the deposit was evidently to elude the rights of the conquerors, and to save the property from the enemy, by placing it in the hands of his majesty's officers, and in the royal name, without the authority of, and unknown to the emperor, and without any intention of administering to his majesty, in his pressing necessities ; consequently, that according to these evident proofs, the remainder of the sum of six lacs of rupces, deposited by M. Dugeon in the hands of Shah-Nuwaz-Khan, being actually a public property of the enemy, the Governor-general concluded by deciding, that the right in that property appertained to the British government, by the conquest of Delhi.

573. From these circumstances, the Governor-general approved of the commander's in chief claim of the sum of money in question, and that he had observed, in his mode of reclaiming it, the respect

and attention which he had uniformly manifested towards the unfortunate emperor.

574. The Governor-general continued by observing, that his majesty Shah-Allum having wished to present to the army, as a gift, the sum of money which his excellency had claimed in right of conquest, the commander in chief could not refuse to accept that offer without offending his majesty's dignity, unless the commander in chief had at the same time renounced every pretension on the part of the British government to the enemy's property, and that the commander in chief would not, in the opinion of the Governor-general, have been justified in relinquishing the right without the express authority of the Governor-general.

575. The Governor-general moreover observed to the commander in chief, that the treasure in question being a lawful prize, the Governor-general should not have thought even himself authorised, (according to the circumstances related by the commander in chief) to give his excellency the power of relinquishing the right, which the British government had, to possess itself of the property of the enemy wherever it might be concealed ; but that the memorable events by which the conquest had been preceded, had particularly induced the Governor-general to grant to the army a recompense, of which it had shewn itself so worthy by its heroic conduct, and such conduct too as never could be surpassed.

576. In consequence, the Governor-general, by virtue of those instructions, authorised the commander in chief to consider the treasure, amounting to five lacs and forty thousand rupees, received as a gift from his majesty, but which was in reality the property of the enemy, as money lawfully taken ; granted, by the authority of the

Governor-general to the army, in testimony of the high opinion which the Governor-general entertained of the discipline, perseverance, and zeal which that brave army had displayed.

577. The Governor-general, however, thought it right to take the first opportunity to order the payment of an adequate sum, intended for the use and service of the emperor, in the manner which should be most agreeable to his majesty.

578. The Governor-general, consequently, addressed a letter to the emperor, in which his excellency explained to his majesty the circumstances, demonstrating that the money claimed by the commander in chief, belonged to the British government, by virtue of the indubitable right acquired by the conquest of Delhi, over the Mahrattas and French. After having demonstrated this fact, the Governor-general added, that he had, according to his majesty's pleasure, given orders to the commander in chief to distribute the property amongst the troops. The Governor-general then intimated to his majesty, that it was the intention of his excellency to secure in a permanent manner, the happiness, the dignity, and the tranquillity of his majesty and the royal family, and that his excellency had ordered the commander in chief to pay into the royal treasury the sum of six lacs of rupees, to provide for the immediate wants of his majesty's household. The Governor-general had, in fact, given orders to that effect, and they have been subsequently executed, and the money applied to his majesty's use.

579. Before the march of the army to quit Delhi, the commander in chief appointed Lieutenant-colonel Ochterlony, the adjutant-general, resident, to his majesty, on the part of the British government. Every requisite respect and regard have been manifested towards the unfortunate emperor, his family, and all his house ; and his majesty

appeared profoundly impressed with the advantages he had already derived from the protection of the British government.

580. After the battle of Laswaree, his majesty hastened, by a special deputation, to congratulate the commander in chief on that brilliant victory, and sent his excellency a suit of honour, according to the custom of India. (Conference 2d March, No. 176.)

581. The arrangements which the Governor General proposed to adopt, for the support of his majesty and the royal family, will, in the sequel, be reported to your honourable committee. Nevertheless, the Governor General finds it convenient here to inform your honourable committee, that it is not his excellency's intention to demand any concession whatever from his majesty, nor to enter into any arrangement whatever, beyond the measures which will fix the honourable support of his majesty and his royal family, as well as the nobility, under the protection of the British power; which will render his majesty's residence in the city of Delhi tranquil, but worthy his rank, and ameliorate the situation of the inhabitants of that city and the contiguous provinces; in short, the aim of which will be, to augment the sources of the military power destined for the defence of the Company's establishments in that part of India.

582. The Governor General cannot terminate this article of the present dispatch, without sincerely congratulating your honourable committee upon the complete success of the plan of political arrangements in the north-western provinces of Indostan, formed, by the Governor General, with the view of excluding the Mahratta power from that part of India, and substituting the influence of the British government on the most solid and lasting foundations. The conclusion of the defensive treaties with the chiefs of the Rajahpoots and Jats tribes, must secure the ascendancy of the British govern-



ment, and present an invincible obstacle to the re-establishment of the influence of the Mahrattas in those states. A particular article of those treaties effectually prevents the introduction of the power or influence of the French, or of any other European state, into the councils or armies of our new allies. The stipulation for reciprocal succours in case of war, places at our disposal a powerful body of native troops, which may be useful to us in the different services of the army; while the obligation which the treaty imposes on our allies, to submit all disputes to the decision of the British government, and to conform, in all cases, to the arbitration of that government, prevents our being surrounded by any unjust or frivolous war, and affords us powerful means of insuring the tranquillity of the northern provinces of Indostan.

583. The substance of the instructions of the Governor General given to his excellency the commander in chief, and to Mr. Mercer, on the subject of the measures to be adopted for the establishment of the authority of the British government in the province of Bundelcund, has been reported to your honourable committee, in the 325th paragraph of this dispatch.

584. In compliance with his instructions, Mr. Mercer having gone to Illahabad, there found the agent nominated by Hemmut-Behauder to conduct the negotiation proposed with that chief; and on the 4th September, 1803, Mr. Mercer concluded a treaty with the rajah Hemmut-Behauder, of which a copy will be found registered 3d March, No. 11.

585. The conditions of that treaty purport, that the British army should solicit of the Nabob-Vizier the enlargement of Amrow-Jeer, a relation of Hemmut-Behauder, upon adequate security for his future conduct; that a jaghire in the Doab, suitable to his rank, be

confided to Hemmut-Behauder, when he has rendered those services which he engaged for to the Company ; that a territory producing the annual revenue of twenty lacs of rupees, should be assigned him in Bundelcund, for the support of his troops, on condition that they should be ready at all times to obey the orders of the British government ; that the British government should consent to take upon itself the pay of the troops above the number of those, for which this territory was assigned to the rajah, and that a similar convention should take place with Hemmut-Behauder, in case the province of Bundelcund was abandoned by the Company.,

586. In that convention a clause has been inserted, by which the British government engages to treat Hemmut-Behauder with the respect which his rank entitles him to ; and he has received the assurance of the British government, that it would strictly observe all the conditions which should be contracted with persons who might offer to submit themselves by the channel of the rajah's agency.

587. After the conclusion of the agreement with Hemmut-Behauder, Mr. Mercer repaired to the head quarters of the commander in chief, in the design of fulfilling the other objects of his mission, (Conference 3d March, No. 13, 14), leaving the care of terminating the arrangement in Bundelcund to Mr. Ahmuty, receiver of Illahabad, who had been made use of as the medium for transmitting the detailed proposition of Hemmut-Behauder to the British government. (Conference 3d March, No. 2.)

588. The British detachment which had been formed near Illahabad, with the view of making it act in Bundelcund, (Conference 5th March, No. 17) entered that country towards the 12th September, and was joined by the troops of the rajah Hemmut-Behauder,

at Serva, about three days march from the Jumna; the united detachments arrived on the borders of the river Cane, the 23d September, (Conference 23d March, No. 21) and found the army of Shumshair-Behauder, son of the late Ally-Behauder, stationed a short time since in Bundelcund, with considerable forces, for the purpose of taking upon himself the government of that province, under the pretext of orders which he alleged to have received from the Peishwah. He was then encamped on the other bank of the river, opposite the position of the allied troops. Shumshair-Behauder dispatched vakeels to Mr. Ahmuty, who had accompanied the detachment into Bundelcund, with the offer of submitting to the British government, the negotiation which had been entered upon with that chief. (Conference 3d March, No. 28.)

589. Mr. Ahmuty having been obliged, by ill health, to return to Illahabad, the conduct of the negotiation devolved on Lieutenant-colonel Powell. (Conference 3d March, No. 30.) On the 10th October, Colonel Powell passed the river Cane, (Conference 3d March, No. 53, 54) and having seen that Shumshair-Behauder was not disposed to evacuate the province of Bundelcund; he with his troops, attacked and defeated that chief's army, On the 13th October (Conference 3d March, No. 56, 57, 58) Shumshair-Behauder immediately retired with his troops to Calpee. The loss which the British detachment sustained in the combat was inconsiderable. For the detail of the battle, the negotiation which preceded it, and the other circumstances relative to the entrance of the British troops into Bundelcund; the Governor-general has the honor to refer your honorable committee to the minutes. (3d March, No. 16 to 60.)

590. Before his excellency the commander in chief had received any intelligence of the rupture between the British government and Shumshair-Behauder, Conference 2d March, No. 126, 127) his

excellency considering it important to insure the submission of that chief to the British government, sent instructions to Mr. Ahmuty according to which he was to use every effort to succeed in the object proposed. (Conference 3d March, No. 43.) The change of circumstances occasioned by the expulsion of Shumshair-Behauder, by force of arms, was not a reason with his excellency for withdrawing the British protection from him. Colonel Powell was, consequently, ordered to resume the negotiation, suspended by a series of events which had occurred before Mr. Ahmuty received the instructions of the commander in chief.

591. In the 394th paragraph of this dispatch, the Governor-general has informed your honorable committee that Captain Baillie, professor of Arabic, Persian, and Mahummedan law in the college of Fort-William, had been appointed political agent to his excellency the commander in chief, in the room of Colonel Symmel, who was compelled, by indisposition, to take his departure for Europe.

592. Captain Baillie went to the army of the commander in chief at the beginning of October. Mention is made of the instructions of the Governor-general to the commander in chief, relative to Captain Baillie's mission, in the registers 2nd March, No. 101.

593. Owing to the continuance of Mr. Ahmuty's indisposition, his excellency the commander in chief chose Captain Baillie to conduct all the political affairs in Bundelcund. Captain Baillie was consequently furnished with general instructions for acting to that effect, and set out to join the detachment in Bundelcund.

594. Captain Baillie, before his arrival in Bundelcund, had a meeting with the vakeels deputed by Shumshair-Behauder, and charged with propositions of accommodation on behalf of that chief. The



Governor-general refers your honorable committee to Captain Baillie's dispatches, dated 9th November, for every thing concerning the communications between Captain Baillie and the vakeels. (Consultations 3d March, No. 107, 110.)

595. In answer to the letter which Captain Baillie had written to Shumshair-Behauder, through the medium of his vakeels, that officer received one from Shumshair-Behauder, by which he expressed his friendly dispositions, and his intention to unite his interests with those of the British government, and announced that he had sent vakeels to Captain Baillie, designing to consult on the subject of an arrangement between him and the British government. (Consultations 3d March, No. 127.)

596. Notwithstanding these favorable appearances, the negotiation was protracted for two months by the indecision or weakness of Shumshair-Behauder, who, having at last fixed the time of his arrival in the British camp, suddenly broke off the negotiation, and retired to some distance from the position occupied by Colonel Powell's detachment. (Consultations 3d March, No. 171, 174.)

597. The uninterrupted success, however, of the British arms, in the district of Calpee, and in the countries on the north-western frontiers of Bundelcund, joined to the frequent desertion of his troops, and to the defection of a great number of officers, speedily reduced Shumshair-Behauder to such a state of distress, that there remained to him no other hope for the re-establishment of his affairs but in the generosity of the British government.

598. Captain Baillie (Consultations 3d March, No. 201) judging that the submission of Shumshair-Behauder (Consultations 3d March, No. 210, 211) would be more speedily effected by making known to

him the intentions of the British government in his favour, addressed him a letter, wherein he promised that the British government, in concert with the Peishwah, would fix, for himself and family, the stipulated annual sum of four lacs of rupees, and acquainted Shumshair-Behauder that he might repose his whole confidence in the justice and generosity of the British government.

599. On the 18th January, Shumshair-Behauder arrived at the British camp, where he was received by Colonel Powell and Captain Baillie, with all suitable marks of respect and attention.

600. The Governor-general approved, entirely, of the conduct of Captain Baillie, during the course of this negotiation; and being convinced of the sincere submission of Shumshair-Behauder, and of his determination to complete the engagements he had just contracted with the British government, confirmed the convention concluded between that officer and Shumshair-Behauder. (Consultations 2nd March, No. 233.) The Governor-general, at the same time, ordered the resident at Poonah (Consultations 3d March, No. 234, A) to work at determining the Peishwah to entrust to Shumshair-Behauder (Consultations 2nd April, No. 168) the management of the districts in Bundelcund, which might remain under his highness's authority; and the Governor-general has a confident hope that these measures will add considerably to the security of the definitive arrangements contracted in that province.

601. The submission of Shumshair-Behauder (Consultations 3rd May, No. 239) was followed by the surrender of all the forts in Bundelcund, possessed by his adherents. Shumshair-Behauder has since remained constantly in the British camp.

602. Soon after Captain Baillie's arrival in Bundelcund, he received

propositions on the part of the Soubahdar of Jansee (Consultations 3d May, No. 126, 130) who possesses the fort of the same name, and the districts dependent thereon, under the nominal authority of the Peishwah, by which he offered to join his interests to those of the British government, and to which the commander in chief authorised Captain Baillie to accede. (Consultations 3d March, No. 153.)

603. On the 4th January the Soubahdar of Jansee arrived at the British camp. With this chief a regular treaty was concluded, which, after having been submitted, by Captain Baillie, to, received the approbation of the commander in chief and the Governor-general. (Consultations 3d March, No. 227, 228, 238, 240.)

604. The troops of the Soubahdar of Jansee were employed afterwards to co-operate in the defence of Bundelcund, and the districts in the vicinity of Jansee. The Soubahdar's example induced several other chiefs in that part of the country, to put themselves under the protection of the British government. (Consultations 3d March, No. 179, 183, 201, 211, 239.)

605. The Governor-general will now report to your honorable committee the progress of the troops under Colonel Powell, whose narrative has been interrupted for the purpose of giving a connected account of the negotiation with Shumshair-Behauder.

606. Immediately after the flight of Shumshair-Behauder from Bundelcund, Colonel Powell, having detached part of his forces towards the banks of the river, Betwa, to protect the frontiers, and secure the tranquillity of the districts submitted to the authority of the British government, marched towards the fort of Colingour, which he intended to attack without loss of time. (Conference 3d March, No. 60, 61, 62, 66, 67.) A communication was before opened

with the commandant of this fortress, and it was hoped that its possession might be obtained by the way of negotiation. (Consultations 3d March, No. 21, 38, 39, 40, 81, 82.)

607. However, his excellency the commander in chief, thinking that the defence of Bundelcund, and of the company's contiguous establishments, against hostile incursion, was an object of greater importance than the immediate possession of Colingour, ordered Colonel Powell to go with his whole corps towards the frontiers, north-west of Bundelcund, (Consultations 3d March, No. 70) and to occupy a position which could put him in a state to repel the invasion of the enemy, and to force the neighbouring chiefs to submit themselves to the authority of the British government, and that of the Peishwah. Colonel Powell arrived at Soroh-pore, on the banks of the Betwa, the 1st November. (Consultations 3d March, No. 93, 93 A.)

608. Several strong places surrendered to Colonel Powell's detachment, and the troops of Hemmut-Behauder, during their march in the country : (Consultations 3d March, No. 54, 85) and they established the authority of the British government in Bundelcund. Some troubles which had arisen in the southern parts of the province (Consultations 3d March, No. 97, 100) were speedily appeased by a party of the troops of Hemmut-Behauder, who was sent there by Colonel Powell.

609. The Jaghirdar of Calpee (Consultations 3d March, No. 132, 133) having manifested a hostile disposition, and refused to accept reasonable terms of accommodation, Colonel Powell marched against the capital of that district, which surrendered on the 4th December, as soon as the batteries were opened. (Consultations 3d March, No. 165, 167.) The possession of the fort of Calpee has been always considered, by the Governor-general, indispensably necessary to com-



mand the right bank of the Jumna; it has also been the intention of the Governor-general to have that position constantly occupied by a British garrison, according to an arrangement to be concluded with his highness the Peishwah, to whose authority the district of Calpee is, nominally, subject.

610. The Jaghirdar of Calpee has since repaired to the British camp. (Consultations 3d March, No. 183, 225, 239, 249.) The definitive establishment of his affairs has not, however, yet taken place.

611. The reduction of Calpee was followed by the surrender of several other strong places in that part of the country, (Consultations 3d March, No. 178, 193) and by the submission of all the chiefs and zemindars possessing territories between the Betwa and the district of Bind, to the north of the river Sind. A momentary arrangement was made by Captain Baillie for the administration of the districts of Calpee, and the other districts north of the Betwa, which had submitted to the British government, and a portion of the revenues has already been realised. (Consultations 3d March, No. 192.)

612. On the 12th December (Consultations 3d March, No. 168, 169) Colonel Powell was joined by a brigade of native infantry, having European officers (Consultations 3d March, No. 139 to 146, and 161 to 163) and commanded by a native of Great Britain, of the name of Shepherd, who had quitted the service of Ambajec, conformably to the proclamation of the Governor-general, dated 3d August, 1803. (Consultations 3d March, No. 139 to 146, and 161 to 163.) This brigade was taken into the pay of the British government, and employed, with success, by Colonel Powell, in establishing and maintaining tranquillity in the interior districts of Bundelcund, in which British troops could not be conveniently employed.

613. On the 28th December, (consultation 3d March, No. 195, 196) Colonel Powell detached two battalions of native infantry to reinforce the detachment employed before the fort of Gwalior.

614. At the beginning of the month of February, Ameer-Khan, (a partisan who had in his pay a large body of marauders, and had offered his services on different occasions to the different belligerent powers during the war,) approached the frontiers of Bundelcund. Ameer-Khan, then engaged in the service of Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, (consultations 3d March, No. 205, 225, 226,) appeared to have a design of invading Bundelcund, and the countries to the north of the Betwa; Colonel Powell (consultations 3d March, No. 237 to 239,) consequently detached Colonel Shepherd's brigade, and a considerable body of the troops of the Soubahdar of Jansee. All these forces were to be joined by a large body belonging to the Rajah of Ooundeha, one of the chiefs who lately submitted himself to the British government. (Consultations 3d March, No. 237.) This detachment was in a state to resist all the forces which Ameer-Khan could oppose to it; and Colonel Powell (consultations 3d March, No. 237) having united his troops at Kotra to the north of the Betwa, and having received a reinforcement of European and native troops, prepared to make head against him if necessary.

615. A negotiation had been begun, by Captain Baillie, (consultations 3d March, No. 214 to 216,) some time before, with Ameer-Khan, who, it was supposed, had an intention of leaving Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar's service.

616. On the 20th February, Colonel Powell having been informed of the intention of Ameer Khan to go by Jansee and Narwar, and join Jeshwunt-Row-Holkar, (consultations 3d March, No. 251, 253,) marched in the direction of Jansee to intercept him. Ameer-Khan,

who had entered the territory of Janfee, retreated as soon as he learnt that Colonel Powell was advancing against him. But he soon returned again to that district with a body of horse marauders, and had a slight skirmish with a party of the troops of the Soubahdar of Janfee. Colonel Powell having, however, continued advancing, Ameer-Khan united his troops, reascended the Ghauts, and fell back to Seronge. Ameer Khan's retreat having delivered the province of Bundelcund and the possessions of the neighbouring chiefs from all fear of invasion, Colonel Powell remained at liberty to go into the interior of Bundelcund, to take possession of the fort of Colingour, and some other strong places which had not submitted to the British government, and he marched to Colingour on the 9th March.

617. The fort of Booraghour surrendered to a division of the troops of Hemmut-Behauder, whilst Colonel Powell was with his detachment to the north of the Betwa. (Conference 3d March, No. 251 and 253.)

618. The 314th paragraph of this dispatch, refers to the arrangements adopted by the Governor-general, in case of war with the confederate Mahratta chieftains, for the defence of the frontiers, extending from Midnapore to Mirzapore on the banks of the Ganges, and to repel the incursions of the corps of irregular troops which might make their appearance from the Mahratta territory.

619. The Governor will now communicate to your honourable committee the detail of these arrangements. To conduct this important object with success, the officers commanding the different military stations were furnished with instructions, appropriate to the local circumstances of the districts situated in the limits of their respective commands, with orders to adopt immediate measures, in concert with the civil magistrates, for establishing a regular and vigorous

system of defence against every inroad above mentioned. (Conference 1st April, 1804, No. 1 ;—29th December 1803, No. 18 A. or F.)

620. The officers to whom this important charge was confided were Major-general Dean and Colonel Fenwick, commanding respectively at Chemar and Midnapore, and the line from the southern extremity of Pachete to the southern banks of the Soone, to Lieutenant-colonel Broughton.

622. It appeared to the Governor-general of greater importance to the discipline and vigour of the regular troops, and more particularly in the present crisis, to keep them always together. (Consultations 12th April, No. 1.). He, therefore, ordered the commanding officers to call in all the detachments of their troops stationed at the advanced posts, as soon as they could do it with safety ; (Consultations 29th December, No. 18 A. to 18 C.) and the magistrates of the districts on the frontiers, likewise received orders to keep up the burkundauzes, or armed soldiers, that they might be able to replace the regular troops in the service. (Consultations 29th December, No. 18 D. to 18 F.)

628. The advantage of keeping the regular troops, as much as possible, united, and not employing in the internal administration of the country, more troops than are actually necessary for the service which should be pointed out to the Governor-general ; (conference 1st April, No. 1) the equally evident advantage of exciting the zemindars of the districts, situate on the frontiers of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Benares, to co-operate in repelling every enterprise tending to penetrate into the Company's provinces by the defiles of their respective states, suggested to the Governor-general the expediency of sending to the officers commanding upon the frontiers orders, whereby they were enjoined to give every possible encouragement to these ze-



mindars, and to authorise them, in case of any design, on the part of the enemy, to penetrate into the company's territory; to maintain armed foldiers at the expence of the government, and to press them to adopt all the measures which their means would permit, for carefully guarding the defiles in question. (Conference 29th December, No. 18 A. to 18 C.)

624. The commanding officers were ordered to employ a sufficient number of trusty emissaries, that they might have timely information of every assemblage of troops on the Mahratta territory, or of any other movement which might indicate a design of penetrating into the British territory:

625. The commanding officers were likewise ordered to consult the civil magistrates of the districts, with the defence of which they were entrusted, in all matters which could have reference to their instructions; and the magistrates were ordered to give the officers commanding on the frontiers, every information which should be in their power, and which might be conducive to the end proposed. Similar orders were dispatched to the agent of the Governor-general at Benares, on the subject of the defence of the frontiers confided to Major-general Dean.

626. The same general instructions were applicable to the circumstances on which the officers commanding the different stations on the frontiers, might be in a situation to act: but the great extent of this part of the frontiers entrusted to Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, and the probability that the enemy's forces might be directed against some part of that line, added to the circumstances in respect to the state of the adjacent Mahratta provinces, and some districts situated immediately on the frontiers of the Company's territory, made it necessary to give that officer particular instructions.

627. These instructions, however, were communicated to Major-general Dean and Colonel Fenwick (consultations 29th December, No. 18, A. to 18, C.), who had orders to adopt such of them as might be applicable to their respective commands; and these officers were besides ordered to submit their ideas relative to the precautions they might think it necessary or convenient to add to these measures.

628. To put the battalion of Ramgour in a state to act, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was authorised to augment that corps to ten companies, each composed of 95 men, and, besides, to raise two additional companies of equal strength. Two companies of regular sepoy were detached from the station of Dinapore, and placed under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, to enable him to unite all the battalions of Ramgour for the operations which he should judge it necessary to undertake. The commanding officer at Dinapore received an order to second Lieutenant-colonel Broughton in every thing that laid in his power. (Consultations 22d November, No. 67, 68.)

629. Conformably to the intimation of Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, that officer was authorised to establish depôts of ammunition in convenient places for the use of his detachment. (Consultations 29th November, and 29th December, No. 12.)

Here two whole sheets are wanting.

Continuation of the broken paragraph.

636. And that, at the same time a considerable reduction of the power and resources of the rajah of Berar might be effected, by setting on foot a negotiation which should be eventually supported by the approach of a detachment of troops, with the discontented subjects of the Berar ra-

jah, in the countries bordering on the honourable Company's possessions in Bengal, for the purpose of exciting them to revolt against the authority of the Mahratta government, and attaching them to the interest of the British government, Colonel Broughton was ordered on the 25th August, (consultation 12th November, No. 12,) to open an immediate communication with those individuals; and in separate instructions of the same date, the principles upon which the negotiations should be conducted, were communicated to him. (Consultations 12th April, 1804, No. 2.)

637. By those instructions, Colonel Broughton was at first ordered to procure correct information upon the actual state of Sunabulpore, the most eastern province of Berar; upon the chiefs and zemindars, who were known to be dissatisfied with the Mahratta government; upon the forces which the Mahrattas employed in that province; and upon the means which the malcontent-chiefs possessed, for repelling an enemy who should attempt an invasion.

638. The measures which were adopted for placing these corps under the command of Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, in a state to act with promptitude and success, and to unite the principal part of his forces, in the view of undertaking offensive operations, without abandoning the defence of the company's possessions, against hostile excursions, have been reported to your honourable committee, in the part of this dispatch relating to the plan of defence adopted by the Governor-general, for the security of the frontiers.

639. The Governor-general will now relate the substance of the instructions, according to which Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was to conduct the political negotiations necessary for attaining the aim of his expedition in the eastern provinces of Berar.

640. During Mr. Colebrooke's residence at Nagpore, Vincajee-

Bhoonslah, brother of the rajah of Berar, had made him some secret overtures, whereby he demanded the continuance of the support of the British government, to establish his independence. (Consultations 12th April, No. 2.) It appears, by the correspondence of Mr. Colebrooke, and by other information, that the province of Chuttesghur, which consists in Ryepore, Ruttunpore, and their respective dependencies, was under the exclusive authority of Vincajee-Bhoonslah; that the Berar Rajah did not interfere with the affairs of Chuttesghur, and had exercised no authority over the mountaineer chiefs, tributaries of the province of Ruttunpore; that the military force stationed in Chuttesghur, was exclusively in the service of Vincajee-Bhoonslah, and that all the public officers of the province were appointed by Vincajee, and under his immediate authority.

641. The Governor-general had no reason to suppose that Vincajee-Bhoonslah had abandoned his projects of independence; but Vincajee-Bhoonslah having accompanied the rajah of Berar in his march to join the army of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, all direct communication with Vincajee-Bhoonslah had become useless, and would have been extremely hazardous to that chief.

642. The advantages, however, which the British government might expect, in the actual crisis of affairs, by establishing the authority of Vincajee-Bhoonslah in the province of Chuttesghur, in entire independence of the rajah of Berar, and under the protection of the British government, decided the Governor-general to attempt to accomplish the object proposed by a negotiation with the Soubahdars of Ruttunpore and Ryepore, the principal officers of Vincajee-Bhoonslah, in Chuttesghur. The Governor-general did not know that the officers were informed of their master's desire to establish his independence, or that they were prepared to act agreeably to his supposed views. Of consequence, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton had orders to begin his negotiation, by addressing letters to the Soubahdars of



Ryepore and Ruttunpore, and informing them that the hostilities between the rajah of Berar and the British government, could not extend to Vincajee-Bhoonslah, unless they were themselves the first aggressors, and granted a passage, to the partisans, across their districts, to enter the company's provinces. Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was at the same time charged to send a confidential agent to Ruttunpore, to endeavour to make himself acquainted with the real views and dispositions of the Soubahdars. In case that the Soubahdars of Ryepore and Ruttunpore were informed of the supposed views of their immediate superior, and disposed to contribute to their success, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was ordered to communicate to those officers, the disposition the British government was in, to guarantee the future independence of the territories of Vincajee-Bhoonslah.

643. Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was likewise ordered to impress upon those officers of Vincajee-Bhoonslah, the necessity of secrecy and circumspection. The conditions of the proposed guaranty were reserved for discussion to a future day.

644. In giving those instructions, the Governor-general thought it necessary to take into consideration the actual state of the province of Chuttesghur. It appeared, that several zemindars of that province were dissatisfied with the authority under which they were immediately placed, and that they were disposed to co-operate, with the British government, against the Mahratta power. As, however, it was manifestly incompatible with the policy mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, to support these zemindars, it was necessary to determine upon the measures to be pursued. Under every point of view, it seemed to the Governor-general, that the intentions of the British government would be better accomplished, by establishing the authority of Vincajee-Bhoonslah in Chuttesghur, than by encouraging and supporting the malcontent zemindars to attack his authority. The establishment of such an authority was more capable of giving security

and tranquillity to the possessions contiguous to those of the company, and by reducing the power and resources of the Berar rajah, it was more likely to increase our own. If, on the other hand, we were to encourage the dissatisfied chiefs, there would not result the same political advantage to the British government, because the difficulty of reconciling their different pretensions and privileges, would have produced embarrassments greater than the advantages which would have been derived from their alliance.

645. The Governor-general, therefore, took the resolution of adopting the latter plan, only in the event of the failure of the negotiation with the officers of Vincajee-Bhoonslah, in Ryepore and Ruttunpore.

646. The same objections did not, however, appear to exist against the project of encouraging and assisting the mountaineer chiefs, tributary to Ruttunpore, whose possessions are situate between Chuttesghur and the company's frontiers, in the intention they shewed of shaking off the Mahratta yoke.

647. Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was likewise ordered to use his efforts to restore the first authority, to the family which had originally possessed the districts of Sumbulpore, supposing that the chiefs and zemindars were willing to concur in that measure.

648. The family here alluded to had been expelled by the Mahrattas, who maintained themselves in the entire possession of that province. The Ranah, who represented that family, was known to have been desirous of the aid of the British government, and he had made the demand in an unequivocal way, on the subject, to Colonel Broughton. It was also suggested to Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, that it would be possible to join Sumbulpore to the possessions of Vincajee-Bhoonslah. It was, however, laid down as a general rule for his

conduct, that in case of a fortunate war against the rajah of Berar, it was not the intention of the British government to extend British regulations into that country, beyond the western frontiers of Ramgour, Palomone, Pachete, and Midnapore.

649. To execute these instructions, Colonel Broughton, immediately after his arrival on the frontiers, sent a confidential agent to Kuhod-Govind, the soubahdar of Ruttunpore, and principal officer of Vincajee-Bhoonslah in that district, with orders to sound the soubahdar's dispositions, and to concert with him, if he were favorably disposed to the British government, the means of promoting the reciprocal interests of his master and the British government. Your honorable committee will observe, by Colonel Broughton's letters of 12th April, No. 8, 34, 35, that this negotiation failed, for the reasons to which that officer conceives he can attribute it. (Conference, 12th April, No. 8 to 14.)

650. Conformably to his instructions, Colonel Broughton, in like manner, opened a negotiation with the Ranah of Sumbulpore, and with other zemindars in that part of the country, who, on former occasions, had shown a desire to join their interests to those of the British government. (12th March, No. 27, 27 A.)

651. Lieutenant-colonel Broughton having judged, by the intelligence which he received, that the possession of the fort of Sumbulpore, occupied by the troops of the rajah of Berar, was entitled to his first attention, and having received news from Sumbulpore, which could not but encourage him, he resolved to advance, in that direction, without loss of time; (Conference, 12th April, No. 8, 15, 22, 23.) and having made his dispositions for the defence of that part of the frontiers, which the advancing detachment would leave uncovered, he quitted the position he had occupied, at the commencement of the month of December. (Conference 12th November, No. 11, 13.) Be-

fore Colonel Broughton had passed the limits of the company's possessions, he was joined by two corps of irregular troops, commanded respectively by rajah Futtch-Narain-Sing, proprietor of a zemindary in the district of Bahar, and by an adventurer of the name of Bhoop-Sing, who had been many years in the service of the Berar Rajah, and who, by his local information, might be very useful to Colonel Broughton. These two chiefs accompanied Colonel Broughton with their troops, in his march to Sumbulpore. (Conference 12th April, No. 9, and 15 to 19.)

652. Seeing that the route which he had intended to take towards Sumbulpore, was not practicable for the artillery, on account of the difficulties opposed by the defiles, Colonel Broughton was obliged to change the direction of his march, and to cut a way for his cannon across a forest of considerable extent. (Conference, 12th April, No. 19, 20.)

653. On the 26th December, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton received a letter from the rajah of Ryeghur, proprietor of a very considerable zemindary, dependent on Sumbulpore, wherein he assured him, of the friendly disposition of the chiefs and inhabitants of that country towards the British government. (Conference, 12th April, No. 22, 23.)

654. On the evening of the 28th December, Colonel Broughton sent a party of his troops, under the command of Lieutenant Higgott, to destroy a corps of Mahrattas, who occupied a small post in his front; but Lieutenant Higgott's guides having gone astray, he could not reach the Mahratta post until some time after sunrise on the 29th. He immediately attacked the enemy, and put him to flight with some loss on the side of the enemy.



655. On the 31st December, after a most difficult and fatiguing march across a country which presented innumerable obstacles to the troops, Colonel Broughton arrived before the fortress of Sumbulpore (conference 12th April, No. 26, 27, 28, 30), and immediately sent a summons to the garrison. After a short parley the troops composing the garrison agreed to evacuate the fort, on condition that they should retain their arms and effects, and that they as well as their families should be protected by the British detachments against the inhabitants of the country, whose vengeance might expose them to the greatest dangers. The garrison, on its part, promised not to bear arms against the British troops during the war. These conditions were accepted, and the fort evacuated on the evening of the 2nd of January; and agreeably to his promise, Colonel Broughton detached a party of his troops to protect the garrison during its march in the province of Sumbulpore.

656. For the details of the circumstances which accompanied the reduction of Sumbulpore, the Governor-general has the honour to refer your honourable committee to the dispatches of Lieutenant-colonel Broughton, dated the 3rd and 9th January. (Conference 12th April, No. 26, 27.)

657. The Governor-general fully approved of the zeal and perseverance which had been manifested by Lieutenant-colonel Broughton and his detachment in their march to Sumbulpore, as well as of the conditions on which Colonel Broughton had permitted the Mahratta garrison of Sumbulpore to evacuate the fort. (Conference 12th April, No. 28.)

658. On the 8th January, Colonel Broughton detached a company of sepoy and 1000 irregular troops under Lieutenant Fountain, to disperse a body of Mahratta troops which was pillaging the country

in the direction of Sonapore. His detachment completely succeeded in its expedition, and by the assistance of the troops of the Rajah of the country, dispersed and destroyed the only Mahratta forces which were left between the frontier of Cuttack and the province of Ruttunpore. (Conference 12th April, No. 32, 33.)

659. Some time after the reduction of Sumbulpore, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton received assurances, on the part of all the Zemindars of that province, and the neighbouring district of Patna, by themselves or their representatives: they therein expressed their joy at having been delivered from the oppression of the Mahratta government, and expressed their disposition to conclude any arrangement which the British government should find it advisable to adopt on the subject of the administrations of those provinces. (Conference 12th April, No. 39.)

660 On the 25th January, Lieutenant-colonel Broughton received, from Fort William, the first intelligence of the conclusion of peace with the Rajah of Berar, and the orders of the Governor-general to cease every hostile measure against that chief.

661. Your honourable committee will see by Colonel Broughton's dispatches (Consultations 12th April, No. 46, 98) those distinct offers of submission to the British government, and the desire of transferring thereto the homage of fidelity which they had long and reluctantly rendered to the Rajah of Berar, communicated by several chiefs and zemindars, whose names are contained in the list annexed to Colonel Broughton's dispatches, (Consultations 12th April, No. 40) dated 29th January. You will therein also see that Colonel Broughton, before he had been apprised that peace had been concluded, had given them the positive and unequivocal assurance that they should be delivered from the authority of the Mahratta government,

and received under the British protection. The important question which has arisen in regard to the validity of the engagements contracted by the treaty of Drogaum, and the decision of the Governor-general thereon, will be reported to your honourable committee in our separate dispatches concerning the peace.

662. Lieutenant-colonel Broughton was desired in the mean while to maintain himself in his position at Sumbulpore, until further orders. (Consultations 12th April, No. 57.)

663. Your honourable committee will observe by the instructions given to Mr. Mercer, dated 22nd July, 1803, the substance of which is contained in the 322nd paragraph of this dispatch, that the Governor-general had thought it would be advantageous to the security of the interests of the British government, to attach to it Ajeet-Sing, chief of Bogailkund, or Rewah-Mukundpore, by a precautionary measure resulting from the plan for the defence of the company's frontiers, and of the project which the Governor-general had resolved to pursue in Bundelcund. For the purpose of completing the execution of this plan, a detachment of British troops was assembled on the frontiers of Rewah, with the design of frustrating every attempt of the enemy to penetrate, by that district, into the province of Benares. The defiles to the south of Rewah, between that country and the states of the Berar Rajah, being more capable of defence than those on the immediate frontiers of the British possessions, the commander in chief, by virtue of the powers with which the Governor-general had invested him, gave an order to the agent of the Governor-general at Benares, to make every exertion to prevail on the Rajah of Berar to permit the British troops to enter his territory, for the purpose of occupying the defiles in question. (Conference 3rd March, No. 15.)

664. The commander in chief having received information (Con-

ference 2nd September, No. 29) which led him to believe that the Rajah of Rewah was disposed to join his interests to those of the company, sent to the magistrate of Mirzapore the plan of a treaty of alliance between that chief and the British government, to be laid before Ajeet-Sing, on conditions favourable to the rajah's interests, and to the success of the Governor-general's designs on the Rewah district.

665. These propositions were transmitted to the rajah by the magistrate of Mirzapore, on the 22nd October. (Conference 29th December, No. 19, 19 A.)

666. In the month of November some of Ajeet-Sing's subjects having joined a body of partisans which was plundering the district of Khynghur in the ceded provinces, and having possessed itself of the fort of Choukundee, situate on the frontiers of that district, a detachment of British troops was sent against them, (Conference 2nd March, No. 186 to 189) and his excellency the commander in chief ordered Major-general Dean, who commanded on the Mirzapore frontier, to prepare to enter the territory of Ajeet-Sing, with the troops under him, in case the rajah were privy to the violent and inexcusable acts of his subjects and their accomplices. (Conference 3rd March, No. 154, 155.)

667. After a daring, but unsuccessful attempt on the fort of Choukundee, that place was evacuated by the garrison on the night of the 24th November, and the district of Khynghur restored to tranquillity. (Conference 22nd May, No. 190 to 194.)

668. The chiefs of the party of marauders having taken refuge in Rewah, Mr. Burges, the magistrate of Mirzapore, addressed a letter to Ajeet-Sing, by which he demanded, as a proof of his attachment to



the British government, to arrest and deliver up these individuals. (Conference 29th December, No. 23.) In answer to several communications from Mr. Mercer, the rajah Ajeet-Sing repeated his protestations of amity towards the British government, but gave no decisive answer to the propositions which had been made to him.

669. The project of concluding the treaty in question with Ajeet-Sing was brought to no point; but the Governor-general in council did not on that account think he ought to suppose Ajeet-Sing inimical to the British government: the age and incapacity of the rajah, the weak and tottering state of his government and the country, sufficiently prove that they alone were the cause of his indecision.

670. The Governor-general will now submit to your honourable committee a sketch of the measures adopted for occupying the province of Cuttack, and the substance of the instructions given to the different officers employed in that important mission. The command of the principal division of the troops destined to act hostilely against Cuttack, was confided to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell of his Majesty's 74th regiment, commanding the northern division of the army of Fort St. George.

671. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell was ordered to collect a force of 1500 natives at Gunjam, and to augment it as much as the tranquillity of the northern circars would permit. A corps composed of two companies of his Majesty's 22nd regiment of foot, and 600 men from the 20th Bengal regiment, with the artillery, was sent by sea from Bengal to Gunjam, to reinforce Colonel Campbell. Captain Blunt, a very experienced able officer, inspector of the province of Cuttack, and who possessed much local knowledge, accompanied the detachment from Bengal. The united forces assembled at Gunjam under Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's orders, and consisted of 505 Eu-

ropeans of the king's and company's troops, 2200 sepoys, and a party of native cavalry consisting of 50 men.

672. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's orders were to enter the province of Cuttack with these forces, and to go to Jaguernaut. (Conference 1st March, No. 46.)

673. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell on passing the frontiers, was charged to make use of all possible means to conciliate the inhabitants; and a proclamation was sent for him to promulgate, promising every protection and indulgence to those who should not take up arms against the British troops, and exhorting the inhabitants not to quit their respective occupations, but to repose, with entire security, upon the British protection. Colonel Campbell's attention was directed, in a particular manner, to the situation of the pilgrims who passed to and from Jaguernaut. He was recommended to grant them the greatest protection, and to shew them the utmost attention. He was likewise ordered, on his arrival at Jaguernaut, to use every possible precaution for maintaining the respect due to the pagodas and to the religious prejudices of the pilgrims, and to furnish the brahmins with guards, and all the means of protection and security which they might ask. Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's instructions likewise enjoined him not to interfere with the established system of the administration of the temple of Jaguernaut, and to assure the brahmins that no tribute nor revenue beyond what they had been accustomed to pay to the Mahratta government should be required of them. Colonel Campbell, however, was ordered not to enter into any engagement that might place an obstacle to the arrangements which it might afterwards be thought necessary to make for the reformation of abuses and vexations.

674. Colonel Campbell was particularly enjoined to take notice

that no property of the pagoda, priests and officers of religious institutions, was considered as lawful capture ; that the British officers could not appropriate any such property, and that no one should be permitted to enter the sacred edifices unless with the express permission of the brahmins.

675. Lieutenant colonel Campbell, after having left forces sufficient at Jaguernaut, under the command of an officer on whom he could rely for the strict execution of these measures, had orders to proceed to Cuttack to reduce that town and fort.

676. The primary object to which the Lieutenant-colonel was to direct his attention after the reduction of Cuttack, was to open a communication to provide a free passage between Midnapore and Jelapore, and for the mails between Ganjam and Calcutta, and to be upon his guard against any surprise on the side of Nagpore.

677. It was signified to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell that it was the intention of the Governor-general to send troops by sea to Balafore, for the occupation of that place, as soon as he was informed of Colonel Campbell's arrival before Cuttack ; and that a battalion of sepoy should march from Jellapore, as soon as the season would permit, to join his army.

678. The Governor-general also thought it right to give to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell instructions to guide him in the communications he might have with the chiefs and zemindars of Cuttack and the adjacent country. It was supposed that several powerful zemindars at Cuttack had made themselves independent of the authority of the Mahrattas, and only obeyed it partially. The resident chiefs in the districts contiguous, were either independent of or tributary to the Mahratta authority. Colonel Campbell was ordered to require the

submission, to the British government, of the revolted Zemindars, and to treat with the independent or tributary chiefs who might have it in their power to clog his operations, by flattering their interests without requiring their absolute submission to the British authority.

679. A civil commissioner was appointed to accompany the army, to organize the province, and assist the officer commanding the troops in his negotiations with the officers and subjects of the rajah of Berar. He was furnished with separate instructions for the regulation of his conduct. (Conference 1st March, No. 1.) The first duty with which Mr. Melvill, the appointed civil commissioner, was charged, was the progressive organization of the revenues of Cuttack, seeing that the approach of the British troops must put that province under our authority. The commissioner was also ordered to organize the conquered countries, in concert with the persons he might find actually charged with the administration of the country. The Governor-general having resolved, as soon as possible, to introduce the system of British laws and regulations into Cuttack, ordered the commissary to direct all his operations according to such intention; to apprise the inhabitants that the British government intended to admit them to all the advantages of its laws, and to show the different benefits which would accrue to them by the introduction of so just and mild a system of government. The revenues must be at first fixed for the term of one year, but the quota to be collected was not invariably determined. Mr. Melvill was, however, to stop at a moderate taxation, so as to attach to us the parties with whom he had the arrangements to make, and to convince the rajahs and chiefs of the stability of the new arrangements. He was also instructed to procure all the information possible in regard to the temple at Jaguernaut, on the nature and extent of the rights ordinarily levied thereon, and the amount of the revenues which the Mahratta government derived from that source, and to provide security for the regular payment of those revenues. The instructions given on this



subject to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell were communicated to Mr. Melvill, as were those given to that officer respecting the negotiation with the officers and subjects of the Mahratta government. Mr. Melvill also received personal instruction on this part of his mission. Mr. Melvill was finally ordered to take charge of the receipts of Cuttack after its reduction ; and two of the Bengal civil servants were appointed to assist him in that employment.

680. In considering the extent and activity of the armaments and military operations directed against Cuttack, the little hope remaining to the officers of the Berar government of a fortunate resistance to the British arms, and the character of these officers and the Mahratta government, the Governor-general thought it proper to authorise Lieutenant-colonel Campbell and Mr. Melvill to open a negotiation with the administration of Cuttack, for the Mahratta government ; with a view to effect a peaceable surrender of the province to the British authority, on condition that they should receive a permanent pension or a sum of money from the British government. His excellency the Governor-general consequently addressed letters to the two individuals who exercised the first authority at Cuttack, and ordered Lieutenant-colonel Campbell and Mr. Melvill to forward these letters to their addressees, and to open a negotiation with the persons to whom they were addressed ; they were authorised to offer to each of the principal Mahratta officers a sum of money, nevertheless, not exceeding two lacs of rupees. Similar negotiations were also to be set on foot with all those whose situation and influence held out the means of facilitating the peaceful occupation of the province of Cuttack by the British troops. Duplicata and triplicata were transmitted of the letters destined for the administrators of Cuttack, to the officers commanding the expedition against Balasore, and the troops which advanced from the side of Jellalore, and to transmit the answer to the officer commanding the division on its march coming from Gunjam.

681. The Governor-general received a letter from one of the most eminent pundits of Bengal, (conference 1st March, No. 12) addressed to the principal brahmins of Jaguernaut, by which he encouraged them to put themselves, as well as the temple, under the British protection. This letter was sent to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell and Mr. Melvill, with unlimited instructions relative to the time and mode of its delivery.

682. In consequence of a serious illness which endangered Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's life, (conference 1st March, No. 53) and which prevented that zealous and able officer from going with the army to Cuttack, the Governor-general sent Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt of the 12th regiment of foot, military secretary to his excellency, to Gunjam to take the command of the expedition. Colonel Harcourt arrived at Gunjam on the 11th September, and took the command of the troops. (Conference 1st March, No. 55.) Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's health being restored, he found himself in a state to accompany the expedition.

683. On the 1st September the Governor-general having been informed (conference 1st March, No. 51) by intelligence from Gunjam (ibid. No. 253) that it was necessary to enable Lieutenant-colonel Campbell to reinforce his troops, sent from Fort William, by sea, under Captain Dick's orders, 500 volunteers from Bengal to Gunjam, with their heavy artillery and stores, for Colonel Campbell. This corps was intended to occupy Balasore.—Colonel Campbell was authorised either to detain or send it forward to its first destination. (Conference 1st March, No. 51.) Captain Dick arrived on the coast too late in the season to be able to effect a junction with the army at Cuttack, and he subsequently received an order from Colonel Harcourt (ibid. No. 81) to go to Fort St. George, from whence he was sent to Trincomalee to reinforce the British troops in the island of Ceylon.

684. The destination of Captain Dick's corps having been changed, another detachment of 500 volunteers, and 21 artillerymen with four six-pounders, were got ready to set off for Balasore, under the orders of Captain Morgan of the 7th Bengal regiment. This detachment was provided with an ample supply of stores.

685. Captain Morgan's detachment was ordered to repair to Balasore, with the greatest diligence, in transports which were ready to take them on board. (Conference 1st March, No. 208.) To avoid the delay which the difficult navigation of the Balasore river would have occasioned, and to surmount the obstacle which Captain Morgan would thereby have met in his passage, by working up towards the town of Balasore, an experienced pilot was given to Captain Morgan for the navigation of that river.

686. Captain Morgan's orders were to go up the river to the town of Balasore, and disembark there. He was authorised to effect his passage, as well as the disembarkation of his detachment, even by force if it were necessary; he was, nevertheless, to endeavour to avoid hostilities, and take peaceable possession of the city. Captain Morgan, after having obtained possession of Balasore, and secured his post by all possible means, had orders to do every thing that depended on him to maintain a free passage for the transport of the mails; and, in case that his interference were necessary, to support the officers charged with the defence of the posts, by furnishing them with guards and all the means of safety compatible with the security of his own detachment.

687. It was, in addition, pointed out to him to promise protection and safety to all the inhabitants of Balasore and its environs; to prevent every excess on the part of his troops, and to avoid every act of violence. It was not omitted to be remarked to Captain Morgan of the importance of maintaining himself in the position at

Balafore, and he was ordered to be prepared to resist, by every means, whatever attempt might be made to dislodge him..

688. He was likewise desired to lose no time in opening a communication with the detachment which was advancing to Jelafore, and to accelerate his march by detaching parties of his troops in that direction, as far as he thought he could do it with prudence. The officers commanding those detachments were to receive particular instructions, and a special order to conduct themselves mildly and with kindness towards the inhabitants of the country. Captain Morgan was further ordered to do all in his power to open a communication with the officer commanding the division which was coming from Gunjam as soon as he learnt the arrival of that division before Cuttack, and to employ his utmost means to keep open the communication with Balafore in either direction. It was particularly recommended to Captain Morgan's attention to look to the safety of the pilgrims passing to and from Jaguernaut, and he was enjoined to give them every assistance that he could.

689. Cannon, ammunition and camp equipage for the eventual use of the detachment coming from Jelafore, under the command of Captain Morgan, was sent to Balafore. The Governor-general thought it proper to address letters to the officers of the Mahratta government at Balafore (consultation 1st March, No. 211) for the purpose of obtaining their co-operation with the British government, and to send them to Captain Morgan, with an order to remit them when he might think it proper. Letters, signed by the Governor-general, were also transmitted, for the purpose of addressing and sending them to some other officers of the Mahratta government on whom they might make a favourable impression.

690. The Governor-general having been informed (consultations 1st March, No. 209) that a considerable number of Patan adventurers,



natives of the honorable Company's and the Nabob-Vizier's states, was employed by the Mahratta government in Cuttack, and judging that a corps, formed of individuals of that temper, might be useful in protecting the country against marauders, or in any other service of that kind, whilst on the other hand it was material to deprive the enemy of an useful corps of troops, authorised Captain Morgan to raise a corps of irregular cavalry, which should not surpass 500 men, and which should be formed of individuals born in the company's states, and in those of the Nabob Vizier. The conditions of their services were to be regulated by those fixed by Major Frith, when he had authority to raise a corps of irregular cavalry in the upper provinces. They have been communicated to your honorable committee by the military department.

691. The Governor-general being of opinion that the services of Captain P. Grant (consultation 1st March, No. 208, 225), of the 22d native regiment of the 2d battalion of the Bengal establishment, might be serviceable in Cuttack, ordered that officer to accompany Captain Morgan to Balasore, to assist him by his local information in the province of Cuttack, and particularly in the city and environs of Balasore, to execute the Governor-general's orders. He was in like manner charged, under the direction of Captain Morgan, with the formation and discipline of a corps of irregular cavalry, which Captain Morgan had orders to set on foot. (Consultations 1st March, No. 209.)

692. Captain Grant was ordered (consultations 1st March, No. 208, 255), as soon as his presence at Balasore could be dispensed with, to join the detachment coming from Jelafore, so as to contribute, by all his means, to facilitate the march of that detachment. The officer commanding that detachment was, according to his instructions, to follow the advice of Captain Grant. (Ibid. No. 171.)

693. The officer commanding the post of Midnapore had orders to reinforce the station on the frontiers of Jelafore with three companies of sepoy; and, according to orders subsequently given to him, he was to send a whole battalion of sepoy and artillery to Jelafore, with the view of advancing to Cuttack, as soon as the season and state of the country would permit that movement to be made. This battalion was joined by a detachment of the Governor-general's body guards, with two pieces of light artillery. Particular instructions were given (consultations 1st March, No. 129, 131, 177), under the immediate authority of the Governor-general, to Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson, the officer commanding the battalion which marched to Jelafore, for the guidance of his conduct after he should have penetrated into the province of Cuttack. He was ordered to enter Cuttack as soon as he was informed that the situation of the country between Jelafore and Balasore would permit him to advance without danger, and afterwards to go with the utmost diligence to Balasore. As the bad state of the roads might have prevented the transport of artillery, Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson was authorized, in case it should be altogether impossible to transport his cannon, to leave them behind, as well as all the camp equipage which he could not take with him. The cannon and camp equipage had been already sent to Balasore for the eventual use of Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson's detachment, as has been already reported to your honorable committee in the 689th paragraph of this dispatch. (Consultation 1st March, No. 108.)

694. Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson received the same orders which had been given to the other officers employed in the reduction of Cuttack, relative to the conduct he was to observe for the purpose of conciliating the inhabitants of the country. (Consultations 1st March, No. 171.) The instructions of the Governor-general to Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson were communicated to Colonel Fenwick, who

commanded the post of Midnapore (consultations 1st March, No. 135); and that officer had orders to assist Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson, with all his power, to enable him to execute the orders of the Governor-general. Colonel Fenwick was likewise ordered to hold his corps ready to march on the first intelligence, lest it should be necessary to succour Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson's detachment, or to protect the frontiers of Midnapore, the defence of which was confided to Colonel Fenwick. The Governor-general previously acquainted Colonel Fenwick, that his intention was to reinforce, by degrees, the post of Midnapore, with the troops which he should march from Fort William. (Consultations 1st March, No. 127.)

695. Supposing that Captain Morgan might take possession of Balasore before Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson's arrival at Jelasore (consultations 1st March, No. 136, 210), the Governor-general authorised Captain Morgan to require, for the service, two or three companies stationed at Jelasore (exclusively of Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson's battalion), for the purpose of occupying the defiles between Jelasore and Balasore. This arrangement had nothing to do with the movement of Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson, whose march to Balasore was not to be stopped on account of the previous occupation of the defiles between Balasore and Jelasore, in conformity to Captain Morgan's instructions. It was recommended to Colonel Fenwick to desire the officer commanding at Jelasore (consultations 1st March, No. 136), to obey the requisition which might be made for him to advance upon Cuttack, by the officer commanding the division coming from Gunjam, who was authorised to order two or three companies stationed at Jelasore to join him.

696. The troops assembled at Midnapore, under Colonel Fenwick's orders, were intended, as soon as hostilities should commence, to occupy the Mahratta districts north-east of the river

Sooburnreeka, and the Mahratta territory intermixed with the British possessions in the province of Midnapore.

697. It appeared to the Governor-general, that the combined system of operations here above developed must bring on the speedy reduction of the rich province of Cuttack under the authority of the British government.

698. The Governor-general has already had the honour to communicate to your honorable committee the success of the British army in Cuttack, conformably to the dispositions above-mentioned (consultations 1st March, No. 46 to 85, 127 to 160, 171 to 206, 207 to 235, 253 to 254 A, 255 to 260). For the different details of these operations, the Governor-general refers your honorable committee to the correspondence with Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt, and the officers commanding the different detachments of British troops employed in the invasion of Cuttack.

699. After the capture of Fort Barrabutty (consultations 1st March, No. 70), as we have communicated by our letter, dated 30th October, Colonel Harcourt was occupied in destroying the remaining Mahratta troops, who retreated precipitately from the province of Cuttack, and in providing for the safety of the frontiers on the Berar side. With that view, Colonel Harcourt immediately sent a small corps composed of native cavalry, a company of Madras European infantry, and a Madras battalion of native infantry, besides a detachment of matrosses, and two six-pounders, under the orders of Major Forbes, of the Madras establishment (consultations 1st March, No. 87, 88), to the defile of Bermuth, which forms the only entrance into the province of Cuttack, across the chain of mountains which separates it from the states of the rajah of Berar. The Governor-general has the honor to



refer your honorable committee to Colonel Harcourt's dispatches, dated 26th October, where your honorable committee will see the instructions given to Major Forbes, to act in consequence.

700. Major Forbes arrived at the defile of Bermuth on the 2d November, and made such dispositions of his troops as rendered him master of it. The detachment was received in its march by the Zemindars, and inhabitants of the country, with all the proofs possible of their attachment to the British government, and it was amply provided with all sorts of provisions. The enemy, in his retreat, escaped across the mountains, before the arrival of the detachment under Major Forbes. (Consultations 1st March, No. 92, 93.) It is probable that they have suffered excessively in their flight from the inhabitants of the different countries through which they were obliged to pass, and who were all infinitely incensed against the Mahratta government. (Consultations 12th April, No. 15.)

701. Soon after Major Forbes's arrival at the defile of Bermuth, vakeels from the rajah of Bood and the ranah of Sonapore came to find him, offering to submit themselves to the British government, and soliciting to be taken under its protection. Major Forbes referred these propositions to be submitted to the authority of Colonel Harcourt. (Consultations 1st March, No. 108 to 111.) The report of the progress and result of these negotiations will be communicated to your honorable committee in the following paragraphs of this dispatch.

702. The honorable Major-general Wellesley having formed a plan for the invasion of the rest of the states of the Berar rajah, in case the war with that chief should proceed, the Governor-general commanded that a considerable detachment should march from Cuttack, through

the defile of Bermuth, in the possession of the rajah of Berar, to co-operate with the troops which Major-general Wellesley had detached in Berar. The detachment at Cuttack was equipped with great promptitude and activity by Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt (consultations 1st March, No. 116); and it was ready to pursue its march when the conclusion of the treaty of Deogaum put an end to all hostile operations against the rajah of Berar.

703. Your honorable committee has been informed, by our letter of the 31st October, 1803, of the march of the detachment under Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson's orders, which, from Balasore, was to join Colonel Harcourt. (Consultations 1st March, No. 91.) This detachment arrived in the environs of Cuttack on the 20th October; Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson was well received every where on his march from Balasore to Cuttack, and derived every possible assistance from the inhabitants.

704. After Colonel Ferguson's march to Cuttack, Captain Morgan, who was left at the head of the British detachment at Balasore, successfully exerted himself in maintaining good order, and securing the newly-established authority of the British government in the country adjacent. He was afterwards employed with advantage in procuring cattle and corn for the troops intended to leave Cuttack under Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt, to co-operate in the invasion of Berar. (Consultations 1st March, No. 236 to 252.)

705. Your honorable committee has been informed, by our letter of the 25th December, that the detachment under Lieutenant-colonel Ferguson, which was advancing to Cuttack, coming from Jelasore, had been supported by a force assembled at Midnapore, under the orders of Colonel Fenwick, the officer charged with the defence of

the frontiers of Midnapore against incursions which might be made from the Mahratta territory.

706. Immediately after the commencement of hostilities against the rajah of Berar, Colonel Fenwick, in concert with Mr. Earnst, magistrate of Midnapore, took possession of the districts under the authority of the Mahratta government, situate to the north-west of Sooburnreeka, and intermingled with the company's possessions in the province of Midnapore. Mr. Earnst contracted with the proprietors of these districts, engagements, (consultations 1st March, No. 144), in virtue of which, the homage of fidelity was transferred to the company. The post of Colonel Fenwick at Midnapore was gradually reinforced by the troops of the presidency (of Madras), and by the same dispositions, they reinforced, in like manner, the troops stationed at Cuttack (consultations 29th of December, No. 31, 38 : idem 1st March, No. 161, 169, 170).

707. The Governor-general is now about to report to your honorable Committee the progress of the negotiations prescribed by the instructions of the Governor-general, given to Lieutenant-colonel Campbell and Mr. Melvill, in order to facilitate the military operations in that part of the possessions belonging to the rajah of Berar.

708. The execution of these instructions were committed to Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt and Mr. Melvill, who took all the necessary steps for obtaining possession of Cuttack by negotiations with the officers exercising authority in that province under the rajah of Berar. (Consultations 1st March, No. 11 or 22.) The Governor-general has the honor to refer your honorable Committee to the letters of Mr. Melvill, noted in the margin, for the detail of the measures which were employed with success by Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt and Mr. Melvill on this subject.

709. The speedy reduction of the fort of Barrabutty, and the facility with which all the province of Cuttack was subdued to the authority of the British government, rendered useless all further attempt to negotiate with the officers of the Mahratta government.

710. After the reduction of the fort of Cuttack the Governor-general thought it proper to appoint, for the organization of the province of Cuttack, a commission composed of Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt and Mr. Melvill. (General orders by the Governor-general in council, 19th October.) M. Earnst, who had executed the functions of magistrate of Midnapore some time before the commencement of the war, was afterwards added to this commission. (Consultations 29th December, No. 39.)

711. The commissioners were ordered to direct their attention, particularly, to the means of establishing an alliance with the rajahs in the province of Cuttack and its environs, previously tributaries of the rajah of Berar, and the submission of whom, to the authority of the British government, was necessary for the tranquillity of our newly-acquired possessions.

712. The rajah of Koorda, one of the most powerful among those chiefs in the southern part of Cuttack, received conciliatory propositions on the part of Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt and Mr. Melvill, (consultations 1st March, No. 17 to 19) before the reduction of Cuttack, and an accommodation took place between them and was executed at the beginning of the month of November. Engagements were likewise contracted with the rajahs of Duspulla, Anzole, Hindale, and Deckamul, whose territories, (consultations 1st March, No. 28) together with those of the rajah of Koorda, are situated in the limits of the province of Cuttack. The substance of the engagements contracted with those chiefs (for the details of which the Governor-



general refers your honorable Committee to the minutes of the commissioners dated 21st November, 1803) comprehends the acknowledgment, on their part, of the honorable Company's authority, the promise to pay to the British government the tribute stipulated, and the obligation to assist the Company with troops if necessary. (Consultations 1st March, No. 41 to 43.) They, besides, comprehend other stipulations, the tendency of which is the safety of the police and of the revenues of the company's contiguous possessions. The British government has, on its part, engaged never to demand an increase of tribute, and never to make any additional pecuniary demand whatever.

713. Mention is made in the 701st paragraph of this letter (consultations 1st March, No. 108 to 111) that overtures of an amicable nature had been received from the chiefs of Boad and Sonapore, at the commencement of the month of November. Similar overtures were received from the rajah of Ramghur. Colonel Harcourt answered the propositions of those chiefs in terms agreeably to the general instructions which he had received, by announcing the satisfaction the British government derived from their offers of submission, and the disposition it had to grant them its protection. To facilitate the negotiations Lieutenant-colonel Harcourt sent some vakeels to Boad, to Ramghur, and to Sonapore. The commissioners likewise opened a negotiation with the rajah of Boonjur, who possesses a territory contiguous to the province of Cuttack. (Consultations 1st March, No. 40 to 45.)

714. The engagements last contracted with these chiefs, containing questions intimately connected with the conditions of the peace, will be made known to your honourable Committee in our separate dispatch.

715. The 706th paragraph of this dispatch (consultations 1st March, No. 144) relates to the British government having effected the occupation of several pergunnahs belonging to the Mahratta government, and situated in the province of Midnapore. Since the conquest of Cuttack engagements have been contracted with the Zemindars belonging to those pergunnahs, in virtue of which they must do homage of fidelity to the government of the honorable Company. (Consultations 29th December, No. 37, 38.) The district of Morebunge, situated on the frontiers south-west of the province of Midnapore, with the Zemindars dependant thereon, was equally subject to the authority of the government of the rajah of Berar. The Zemindar of Morebung has offered his submission to the British government, and an arrangement has since been entered into with him.

716. Mr. Earnst's correspondence, to which the Governor-general has the honor to refer your honorable Committee, (consultations 29th December, No. 37 to 41, and 45 to 48) contains the most detailed report on the subject of Morebunge and the Mahratta pergunnahs, situate in the district of Midnapore. (Consultations 1st March, No. 38.) The Zemindary of Morebunge, as well as the Mahratta Pergunnahs, remain in the honorable Company's possession by virtue of the stipulations of the treaty of Deogaum; and it is scarcely necessary to observe to your honorable Committee the advantage which must result from the entire exclusion of the influence of the Mahratta government from Midnapore and the adjacent districts.

717. Your honorable Committee will observe, relative to the operations of Mr. Melvill and the commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack, (consultations 1st March, No. 16, 25, 26, 27, and 30 to 35) that the organization and receipt of the revenue of the province has been their first care. They judged that it was necessary, for reasons which, to the Governor-general, appeared satisfactory, to make no essential change

in the mode of collection for the current year; they, consequently, under the sanction of the Governor-general, preserved, with some modifications, the system which they found established, and appointed the officers necessary for executing it. (Consultations 1st March, No. 26 and 32.) They, at the same time, established rules for the prevention of all abuses. The commissioners have already realised a considerable part of the revenues of Cuttack by means of this momentary arrangement.

718. They have been enjoined to make every effort to secure the real resources of the country, and to obtain such information as may enable the Governor-general to establish a regular and permanent system of collection in the province of Cuttack. (Consultations 1st March, No. 26.)

719. It was likewise thought advisable immediately to alter the organization of the temple of Jaguernaut. (Consultations 1st March, No. 16, 17, 25, 26, 32, 37.) On the recommendation of the commissioners the Governor-general confirmed in his place the officer in chief of the Mahratta government at Jaguernaut. The commissioners were ordered to report, in detail, the system, to that time, pursued in the temple of Jaguernaut, so as to enable the Governor-general to make a final arrangement in the administration of this temple. (Consultations 1st March, No. 26: idem 1st November, No. 26.)

720. The Governor-general will now resume the report on the operations at Hyderabad.

721. In the 446th paragraph, (Consultations 25th August, No. 36) it is said that the resident at Hyderabad, had obtained a letter for Major-general Wellesley, from his highness the Nizam, who therein gave him full powers, and placed under his orders the military com-

mandants of his highness on the western frontiers of his states. (Consultations, 2d November, No. 15). These full powers were confirmed by his highness Secunder-Jah, after his accession to the government of Hyderabad. (Consultations 2d April, No. 6.) Those powers having, however, been rendered futile, by the obstinacy and disobedience of the officers of his highness's government, they were transferred, according to Major-general Wellesley's express desire, to rajah Moheput-Ram, one of the principal officers commanding his highness's contingent, and serving with the auxiliary troops. (Consultations 2d April, No. 14—23). The rajah Moheput-Ram was ordered to comply with all the requisitions which should reach him from Major-general Wellesley, and was made responsible for the exact execution of that general's orders.

722. The principal object for our attention at Hyderabad then was, the approaching decease of his highness the Nizam. (Consultations 25th August, No. 29). That event took place on the 6th August, 1803. Your honourable committee has been informed, in the 442nd paragraph of this letter, of the instructions given to the resident at Hyderabad, in case of the Nizam's death. The resident, in concert with Azim-Ool-Omrah, employed all the necessary precautions for maintaining the tranquillity of the city. A battalion of British troops received the resident's order, at the particular desire of Azim-Ool-Omrah, to enter Hyderabad, and guards were placed at all the posts capable of contributing to keep up tranquillity.

723. On the 7th August, (Consultations 25th August, No. 34,) Mirza-Secunder-Jah, eldest son of the late Nizam, ascended the musnud, to which he was conducted by the resident at Hyderabad, and by rajah Ragotim-Rao, deputed by Azim-Ool-Omrah, and received the congratulatory presents of all the principal officers of his government. The resident was, on that occasion, received by his



highness with the most distinguished honours, as representative of the British government in India ; and his highness publicly delivered to the resident, a writing under his seal, whereby he confirmed the treaties subsisting between the British government and the state of Hyderabad. Your honourable committee knows that the Governor-general had previously ordered the resident to demand of Secunder-Jah, to have a writing ready to that effect, as the first public act of his government ; and his highness consented to the requisition without the least delay.

724. Rajah Ragotim-Rao, on this occasion, suggested the demand of a similar engagement on behalf of the British government, which the resident prudently rejected. (Consultations 8th September, No. 1.) The Governor-general being, however, of opinion, that a voluntary act of recognition on our part, could not but conciliate the confidence of Secunder-Jah, make an impression upon his subjects, and on several princes and chiefs of India, and particularly upon his highness the Peishwah, and that it would contribute extremely to give a favourable idea of our justice, our moderation, and our public faith, judged it advisable to forward an engagement similar to the writing delivered by Secunder-Jah ; for this purpose, a writing was expedited by the Governor-general, under the honourable company's seal, and sent to the resident, with an order to transmit it to his highness the soubahdar, in the most public and formal manner. This paper was presented to his highness by the resident, in presence of the whole court, on the 24th September, (Consultations 2nd November, No. 59) and received by the soubahdar with the greatest marks of the satisfaction which he felt, at the generosity manifested by the English government on this occasion.

725. The resident at Hyderabad (consultations 25th August, No. 30, 32, 33) immediately dispatched the news of the Nizam's death,

and of the accession of Secunder-Jah, to the honorable Major-general Wellesley, to the government of Fort St. George and Bombay, to his excellency General Stuart, to Major-general Campbell, and to the residents at Poonah and with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah; and these two events were publicly proclaimed at Hyderabad, in the principal places of the Soubahdar's states, and in the stations of his highness's army upon the frontiers. (Consultations 25th August, No. 39.)

726. The Governor-general has infinite satisfaction in announcing to your honorable committee, that his highness's death has not disturbed the public tranquillity, and that Mirza-Secunder-Jah's accession to the throne, (Consultations, 25th August, No. 29 to 34, 38 to 40, 44, 50) has been recognized generally, and with satisfaction, by the younger sons of his late highness, and by all the officers and subjects of his government.

727. Mention is made in our minutes (Consultations 25th August, No. 44) of dispatches from the resident at Hyderabad, by which he communicates the news of the Nizam's death, and the accession of Secunder-Jah, as well as of the detail of all the ceremonies relating to that event.

728. Intelligence of the commencement of hostilities, (Consultations 25th August, No. 44.) between the British government and the confederate Mahratta chiefs, reached Hyderabad on the 10th August.

729. The resident, (Consultations 25th August, No. 23,) agreeably to the provisional instructions of the Governor-general, dated 19th August, (Consultations, 8th September, No. 17, 25, 26,) immediately intimated to the government of Hyderabad, that it was advisable

to fend away the vakeels and agents of the confederate chiefs, (Consultations 2nd November, No. 21,) and to recall from the respective courts the ministers of the Soubahdar of the Dekkan. This demand was acceded to, without hesitation, by the Soubahdar's government.

730. Before the commencement of hostilities, the resident at Hyderabad had been charged by Major-general Wellesley, in the supposition of that event, to address himself to the Soubahdar of the Dekkan, that he would be pleased to give orders to reinforce his troops in the northern parts of his states, and to place garrisons of soldiers in the walled forts, towns, and villages, for the purpose of stopping the plunder of the enemy's cavalry. General Wellesley also ordered the resident to engage his highness the Soubahdar, to cause a body of troops to assemble at Hyderabad for the protection of that city.

731. The necessary measures were immediately adopted to that effect: in the month of December the troops assembled at Hyderabad amounted to eleven thousand horse, and six thousand foot, (Consultations 2d April, No. 73.) His highness the Soubahdar at the same time declared that it was his intention to put himself at the head of his troops; in fact, he entered into his tents and remained in the camp for several weeks. (Consultations 2d November, No. 21, 46.) The requisitions, however, which Major-general Wellesley had ordered the resident to make to him on other points, were not equally successful. Those ministers did, it is true, give orders (Consultations 11th September, No. 11) to the different killedars and other officers of the Soubahdar's government; but his orders were despised, and those employed by his highness neither gave themselves any trouble for the defence of his country against the incursions of the enemy, nor for the success of the common cause. (Consultations, 2d November, No. 15, 26, 30, 87, 88. Idem, 2d April, No. 6, 43, 53. Idem, 2d November, No. 56, 57, 59, 60, 66, 67, 68, 79 to

83, 87, 88, 89, 94, 95.) There were even some instances of positive acts of hostility having been committed against the British troops by the Soubahdar's officers.

732. Major-general Wellesley, for this reason, judged it absolutely necessary to order the resident at Hyderabad to remonstrate in the strongest terms against the hostile and inexcusable conduct of those employed under his highness's government. (Consultations, 2d April, No. 4, 6, 7.) The principal ground of complaint was, first, the refusal of the killedar of Dowlut-Abad to receive into the fort under his command, the sick of General Wellesley's army, and the officers and soldiers wounded in the battle of Assye.

733. 2d. The conduct of the killedar of Budnapore, who fired upon a detachment of the British troops, on their march to rejoin Major-general Wellesley with a convoy.

734. 3d. The refusal of the killedar of Dharore to grant protection, under the guns of his fort, to a convoy which was going to join General Wellesley's army, and the killedar's declaration, that it was his intention to compel the British troops to retire from the vicinity of the fort, into which he declared that he could not admit them, without an express order from Hyderabad.

735. 4th. The refusal of the rajah of Sookroodur, (officer in chief of his highness the Soubahdar, in the northern part of his states,) to permit the sale of grain, in the districts under his orders, for the use of the troops, and divers acts of disobedience and discontent on the part of that officer.

736. The resident at Hyderabad addressed remonstrances to the minister on these different complaints; Azim-Ool-Omrah assured



the resident that the conduct of his highness's officers must not be attributed to the government of his highness the Soubahdar; (Consultations 2d November, No. 59, 60,) that positive orders had been given, and should be repeated anew; (Consultations 2d April, No. 45, 46. *Idem*, 1, 2, 48, 49, 50,) and that the officers whose names had been pointed out by the resident, should be immediately dismissed. During the course of the correspondence between Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Hyderabad on this subject, the resident remarked different circumstances entirely opposite to the fundamental principles of the alliance subsisting between the British government and the court of Hyderabad, and of a nature to be immediately conveyed to the knowledge of the Governor-general.

737. The resident, in a letter addressed to Major-general Wellesley, dated 8th October, 1803, (Consultations 2d November, No. 85, 90), attributed the conduct of the Soubahdar's officers to the jealousy, mistrust, and aversion, with which the persons of almost every rank in the Soubahdar's states regarded the alliance of the British government with that state. The resident also represented, that the Soubahdar himself was not exempt from this prejudice; that his highness, in a secret conference (Consultations 2d April, No. 95) with his minister, had accused the British government of interfering in the internal affairs of his administration, and denied the right of the British government to remonstrate against his highness's kille-dars and officers, adding, that the admission of British troops and officers into the fortresses belonging to his highness, or their exclusion therefrom, although in a war supported by the two powers in concert, was a matter of indifference.

738. The Governor-general thought it necessary to communicate without loss of time, to the resident at Hyderabad, his opinion on this extraordinary and alarming intelligence, as well as on the recent

conduct of the Soubahdar's officers, who had given rise to General Wellesley's complaints, and to transmit, by the same opportunity, to the resident, suitable instructions for the rule of his conduct on that occasion.

739. Although the Governor-general had been satisfied with the manner in which the government of Hyderabad had regarded the misconduct of his highness's officers, his excellency in council was, nevertheless, of opinion, that if his highness the Soubahdar really entertained the sentiments attributed to him ; and, that if a general sentiment of jealousy and aversion to the alliance subsisting between the British government and the court of Hyderabad, effectually prevailed in all his highness's states, that state of things was an attack upon the fundamental principles of the alliance, and demanded a prompt remedy ; besides, that the particular causes of complaint required immediate satisfaction.

740. To put an end to this uncertainty, the Governor-general ordered the resident at Hyderabad, himself, to address to the Soubahdar, in public durbar, a remonstrance founded on the following motives :

- 1st. The general principles of the alliance, and the reciprocal obligations which the stipulations of that alliance impose on the contracting parties.
- 2d. The numerous advantages which have resulted to the late Nizam and the actual Soubahdar, from the Company's alliance, and the repeated dangers from which the state of Hyderabad had been protected by that alliance. The just and generous conduct of the British government, in recognizing unconditionally, the accession of Secunder-Jah, notwithstanding the numerous and just claims which the British government might have made upon his highness.

- 3d. The delicacy and public faith which the British government had manifested, in avoiding interference with the interior affairs of his highness, or of his predecessor.
- 4th. The rigorous attention which had been evinced towards his highness's rights in the conclusion of the treaty of Bassein.
- 5th. The non-execution on his highness's part, during the present war, of the conditions of the alliance contracted; and, lastly, the unwarrantable and perfidious conduct of his highness's officers.

741. The resident was, besides, ordered to observe to his highness, that retaining the principles attributed to Secunder-Jah, as has been mentioned in the 737th paragraph of this letter, would rank that prince as a public enemy to the British government.

742. The resident was enjoined to demand an additional article to the treaty of Hyderabad, by which the forts of the contracting parties, in a war undertaken in concert, should be open to the troops of each respective state; and that the officers of the two governments should employ all the resources which were at their disposal, to facilitate the operations of the troops of the allied government.

743. His excellency the Governor-general further ordered the resident, that if, in the course of the present war, the Soubahdar did not punish the treachery of the commandants of the forts, he was to demand that all the forts necessary for the protection of convoys should be placed in Major-general Wellesley's hands; observing, that his highness's conduct, in siding with his officers who had acted inimically to the British government, was incompatible with the spirit of the alliance; and that, to complain of the conduct

of those officers who had been in fault, was not an usurpation of the rights, or a violation of the independence of his highness.

744. The resident was ordered to require from the Soubahdar, that the principles of the alliance should be recognized in the most clear and solemn manner. To give the greater force to these representations, the resident was ordered to avoid all discussion of complaints of inferior importance, and to bring his whole attention upon the objects which might impress on the Soubahdar, a just sentiment in regard to the nature of the alliance, and to convince his highness, that his true interest, the obligation imposed by his public faith, his honour, and his reputation, required that he should cordially contribute to the success of the common cause. He was also enjoined, to make himself master of the real views and character of Secunder-Jah, and to take precautions against the defection of that prince, particularly during the actual war. With regard to the general sentiment of jealousy and aversion which was supposed to exist against the alliance established between the two states, the resident had orders to concert with Major-general Wellesley, with the view of taking precautionary measures against the consequences of that general spirit of discontent. Major-general Wellesley was also authorized to act against the Soubahdar's officers, who should henceforth be guilty of such conduct as that mentioned in the 732d paragraph of this dispatch, as against the officers of a state at war with the British government, without appealing to the decision of the Soubahdar, or the Governor-general.

745. The resident having demanded an audience of the Soubahdar, read and presented to his highness, in public durbar, a memorial founded on the instructions, the substance of which is reported in the 740th paragraph. This representation produced the desired effect.



The Soubahdar, in a letter which he addressed to the Governor-general, declared, that he was ready to accept the additional article which the resident at Hyderabad had proposed to him; and on the 9th January this article was added and exchanged at Hyderabad.

The dispositions of his highness's subjects towards the British government, not appearing to the resident of a character sufficiently dangerous to affect the public tranquillity, he judged, that in consideration of these circumstances, it was not necessary to increase the troops at Hyderabad. (Conference 2d April, No. 90).

746. In the course of the communications of the resident at Hyderabad; with the durbar, on the subject of the different objects that were in discussion, a difference of a very serious nature had arisen between the Soubahdar and his prime minister Azim-Ool-Omrah.

747. It is reported, that the causes of mutual discontent had existed before Secunder-Jah's accession; that Azim-Ool-Omrah had been suspected, and accused of opposing the accession of Secunder-Jah, and favouring one of the youngest sons of the late Nizam. The resident having known of this imputation before the late Nizam's death, thought it was necessary immediately to recur to the means of informing himself either of the truth or falsehood of the assertion, with the view, if it were necessary, of preventing the ministers from opposing the accession of Secunder-Jah. (Conference 25th August, No. 7, 8, 9).

748. The minister did not hesitate to give the resident the most solemn assurance of his innocence with regard to the design imputed to him, and declared that he was resolved to uphold and support the accession of Secunder-Jah by all the means which should be in his power. (Conference 25th August, No. 21, 22.)

749. Soon after Secunder-Jah's accession to the musnud of Hyderabad, the dissatisfaction of this prince burst forth, and finally increased to such a point, that it was expected he would be disgraced and despoiled of his power, and fears were even entertained for the safety of his person.

750. As the interests of the British government were to preserve the influence of Azim-Ool-Omrah in the council of the Soubahdar of Dekkan, the Governor-general approved the resolution which the resident at Hyderabad had taken, by his influence and exertions, to bring about a reconciliation between his highness and his minister. It is not necessary to detail to your honourable committee the means which were adopted by the resident to that effect; we, therefore, only point out to your honourable committee the references of our register. (Conference 2d November, No. 85, 86, 93, 95; 2d April, No. 82 to 86). The resident completely succeeded in reinstating Azim-Ool-Omrah in the good opinion and confidence of Secunder-Jah, who, agreeably to the resident's intimation, will confer on his minister the same full powers, and the same unlimited authority in the public affairs of his government, which he had exercised in the late Nizam's life-time. (Conference 2d April, No. 91.)

751. The 445th paragraph of this dispatch relates to the instructions given to the resident at Hyderabad for the purpose of claiming from the Nabob of Kurnoul, the contingent of troops which he was engaged to furnish, as a tributary of the British government. (Conference 8th September, No. 4, 5, 10, 11, 17, 20, 21.)

752. That chief did not hesitate to comply with the resident's requisition; and his contingent consisting of 500 horse and 500 foot, arrived at Hyderabad in the beginning of October, 1803, and afterwards went to join the division of the army under Major-general Campbell. The

nabob of Kurnoul has expressed his desire to have a written act, which might definitively fix the extent of his obligations on the subject of the payment of the tribute and military service; and it is the intention of the Governor-general to comply with this demand. (Consultations 2d March, No. 11, 12, 24, 46, 47, 48, 52, 56, 57, 67, 78, 86. Conference 2d April No. 32 to 37.)

753. About the end of the month of August, (conference 8th September, No. 17, 18, 19,) the resident at Hyderabad received from a person named Lucca-Ram-Pundit, a communication on the part of Serjajee Ghatka, father-in-law, and formerly minister of Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, then resident on the territory of the rajah of Colapore. (Conference 2d November, No. 21, 22.) To judge of it by the sense of that communication, made in vague and obscure terms, it would seem to contain a proposition on the part of Serjajee-Ghatka, to concert with the British government, and employ all the influence which he yet had in the court and army of Scindeah, for the re-establishment of general tranquility and good order. The resident referred the agent of Serjajee-Ghatka to Major-general Wellesley, to whom the resident transmitted the proposal which he had received. (Conference 2d November, No. 89.) The possibility of re-establishing Serjajee-Ghatka at the head of Scindeah's administration, and his connections with a powerful zemindar on the bank of the Kistna, by the territory of which General Wellesley's convoys must necessarily pass, induced General Wellesley to authorise the resident to maintain relations of amity with that chief, without acceding to his offers. The departure of Serjajee-Ghatka for Poonah, prevented the resident at Hyderabad from communicating with him in a more extensive manner. (Conference 2d November, No. 90.)

754. During the war, the resident urged the government of the soubahdar at several opportunities, to augment as much as possible, the



contingent of his highness's troops, actually in the field, in conformity to the conditions of the treaty of 1800. (Conference 8th September, No. 10, 11, 25, 26, 27.) Whilst any hope remained of yet attaching Amheer-Khan, the resident had not thought it necessary to press the increase of the contingent, on account of the expences which the foubaldar's government would have been drawn into by a levy of troops combined with those of Ameer-Khan. (Conference 2d November, No. 54, 56, 59, 94, and 2d April, 2.) But the negotiation with Amheer-Khan having fallen to the ground, the resident repeatedly solicited the minister to give an order for augmenting the contingent; and after a long delay and evasive answer on the part of the Durbar, the resident received a positive assurance, that an order had been given to Moheput-Ram to raise additional forces. These orders, however were either wholly treated with contempt, or clandestinely suppressed. Nothing of importance passed at Hyderabad to the conclusion of the war. (Conference 2d April, No. 3.)

755. The resident continued to keep up a regular correspondence with the honorable Major-general Wellesley, (conference 25th August, 1803, No. 10 to 16, 48, 48 A. 2d November, 8 to 15, 24 to 26; 37 to 48; 53 to 57; 66 to 69, 77; 80 to 83; 87 to 90. 2d April 1804, 4 to 7; 15, 16, 21 to 25, 27, 30, 31, 38, 40, 43 to 47, 52, 54, 55, 63 to 70, 75, 76, 87 to 89,) on every subject which regarded the movement and subsistence of the army under that general's immediate command, as well as that of the subsidiary troops, he also applied himself with zeal, activity and success to procure and send in a great quantity of money, corn and oxen for the use of the troops in the field. (Conference 2d November 1803, No. 8, 94. 2d April 1804, No. 2, 4, 21, 23, 45, 46.) The detail of his praiseworthy exertions for the supply of the army, will be found in our minutes here above noted.

756. Your honourable committee will have been informed by the hon. governor of Bombay, of the conduct of that government in the



execution of the branches of the general system of operations relative to the war, which concerned that presidency. The attention of the government of Bombay was principally turned to provisioning the army under the personal command of Major-general Wellesley; to the formation and equipment of the detachment intended to occupy Baroach; to facilitating the operations of the troops under Lieutenant-colonel Murray, employed under the immediate authority of Major-general Wellesley, to occupy the part of Guzzurat belonging to Dowlut-Row-Scindeah. The presidency of Bombay was also occupied with the measures for the defence of that province, and with the preparations for an expedition against Oujein, Scindeah's capital, suspended by the conclusion of the peace with that chief.

757. The detail of Lieutenant-colonel Murray's operations will, in like manner, have been communicated, to your honourable committee, by the government of Bombay.

758. However, in reference to its connection with the general system of the combined operations for putting an end to the war speedily and happily, it is not irrelevant to relate the correspondence between the honorable government of Bombay and the honorable Major-general Wellesley, subsequent to the instructions which the Governor-general had given to Major-general Wellesley, dated the 26th and 27th June, 1803, on the subject of the measures to be pursued for the defence of the province of Guzzurat, and the use to be made of the troops stationed in that province.

759. The Governor-general remarked that the honourable government of Bombay formed an inaccurate opinion of the extent of the powers conferred on Major-general Wellesley, and had impeded the execution of the measures adopted by that officer, by permitting themselves to act in opposition thereto, from the supposed necessity of

maintaining the local and subordinate authority of the resident at Baroda over the troops stationed in Guzzurat. It appeared to the Governor-general that the conduct of the Bombay government, on this occasion, although directed by views for the public welfare, and by a laudable zeal, was of a nature to interrupt the success of a plan which the Governor-general had formed for the campaign in the Dekkan, by deranging the combinations of a vigorous system of operations in the west of India, which the honourable Major-general Wellesley wished to establish, not only to guarantee our western possessions, but also to make an active and rapid war upon the enemy. In this crisis of affairs it was manifestly necessary that all local considerations, and minute details, should give way to the important end of securing the execution of a general system of offensive dispositions, under the exclusive direction of the general officers, commanding the main army, in the Dekkan, subject to the direct authority of the Governor-general in council. The Governor-general, for this reason, positively ordered that, in compliance with the plan proposed by Major-general Wellesley, Colonel Murray should be invested with the principal, local, military, authority in the province of Guzzurat, under the orders of Major-general Wellesley, or of the general officer commanding in the Dekkan, exclusive of every other local authority whatever.

760. The Governor-general, further, required the government of Bombay to use the greatest diligence in rendering the body of troops, under Colonel Murray's orders, in a state to act with promptitude, during the campaign, and expressed to the Governor of Bombay the full confidence which he had in his zeal, his care, and in his ability, to contribute, by direct orders, and the united efforts of every department under his immediate inspection, to the success of this important object. The Governor-general likewise announced that he promised himself to find in the government of Bombay the same spirit of speedy and loyal co-operation which had accelerated the happy conclusion of

the war in the Myfore, and which must soon bring about a safe and honourable peace with the Mahratta chieftains.

761. His excellency observed that, to attain this object, every local and temporary consideration should give way to the necessity of pursuing the war with vigour, and carrying our arms into the centre of the power and resources of the enemy. (Consultations 6th March, No. 164.)

762. The correspondence between the honourable government of Bombay, and the honourable Major-general Wellesley, to which the seven hundred and fifty-eighth paragraph refers, is mentioned in the Consultations 10th November, No. 18.

763. Agreeably to the orders contained in the instructions given to the Bombay government, (Consultations 8th March, No. 6, 18, 27, 41, 46, 63, 65, 79, 127, 140,) the substance of which is related above, the governor of Bombay judged it necessary to increase the troops under Colonel Murray; (Consultations 8th May, No. 259 to 266,) and for that purpose pursued the idea of the commander in chief in that province, to convert the corps of militia into a regiment upon the footing of the regular establishment of Bombay.

764. The reasons alledged, in favour of these dispositions, having appeared to the Governor-general perfectly satisfactory, his excellency agreed that the regular establishment of Bombay (Consultations 8th March, No. 267) should be augmented during the war with the Mahrattas, and, at the same time, ordered that it should be signified in general orders at Bombay, that the newly formed regiment should be reformed, immediately, after the conclusion of peace with Scindeah.

## POONAH.

765. The Governor-general will now submit to your honourable committee a general view of the events which have taken place at Poonah, since the departure of Major-general Wellesley from that capital, 4th June, 1803.

766. The resident devoted his whole time, and all his care, particularly, to obtain from the Peishwah the execution of the stipulations of the treaty of Bassein in as far as they related to the actual state of affairs, and the junction of the contingent of troops which his highness had pledged himself to furnish, by the treaty, in case of a combined war. To put the Peishwah in a situation to perform the essential part of his obligations, it was of the utmost importance to prevail upon his highness to conciliate the good-will of the southern Jaghirdars, who had accompanied Major-general Wellesley from the Kistna to Poonah, and from whom alone the Peishwah could expect the succours necessary for enabling his highness to perform that part of his engagements.

767. Major-general Wellesley was obliged to set out from Poonah without being joined by the Peishwah's troops. However, after urgent and repeated solicitations, the resident obtained from his highness authority to enter into an accommodation with two of those chiefs then on their march from Poonah to join the army under Major-general Wellesley, near Ahmednaggur. The combined forces of those two chiefs were but three thousand horse. Nevertheless these troops continued to serve with the British army throughout the campaign, and their conduct entitled them to the approbation of Major-general Wellesley.

768. Hostilities having commenced, the Peishwah was again pressed



to complete the contingent of troops, which his highness had pledged himself to furnish, but in vain. The mistrust and reciprocal fears founded on the ideas of the respective wrongs which his highness and his Jaghirdars had mutually to reproach each other with, presented an insurmountable obstacle to sincere reconciliation; and except Coklah, and Appa-Deffaye, who joined the British army after it had left Poonah, as has been already stated in the foregoing paragraph, all the chiefs who had accompanied Major-general Wellesley into this city, returned to their Jaghires.

769. The Governor-general considers it useless to enter into a detail of the different communications which took place on this subject, between the resident at Poonah and the Peishwah's ministers. These details are in the dispatches of the resident at Poonah, of which we make mention in our consultation 21st July, No. 79 to 86, 97, 103; 17th August, 43, 52, 53; 25th August 58; 8th September, 34, 41, 43, 53, 2d November, 160.

770. Major-general Wellesley and Lieutenant-colonel Close, thought that it was of the highest importance to effect a reconciliation between the Peishwah and his brother Amrut-Row. The latter had, in appearance, separated his interests from those of his highness's enemies, and shewed his intention to be reconciled under the guaranty of the British government. The resident at Poonah, according to General Wellesley's desire, addressed a memorial to the Peishwah, containing proposals, on which might be established the means, whereby to insure Amrut-Row's fidelity to his highness's cause.

771. The propositions contained in the resident's memorial were received, by the Peishwah, with marks of formal approbation. His highness's ministers declared that their master would never consent to conditions so favourable to Amrut-Row, whom he should consider

as a rebel and a traitor, on whose promise no reliance could be placed, and to whom the Peishwah had sworn eternal hatred. His highness afterwards transmitted to the resident a writing which contained the terms on which the Peishwah was disposed to an accommodation with Amrut-Row. These conditions, which would have imposed, on the latter, the most degrading restrictions, were of a nature to confirm Amrut-Row in his mistrust, and to excite him to enterprises the most desperate against his highness's person and government. The resident seeing that all the arguments, founded on the necessity of a reconciliation with Amrut-Row, on account of the state of the Peishwah's affairs, and the obligations of his alliance with the British government, were of no avail, addressed, to his highness, an energetic memorial, wherein, recapitulating all the considerations previously alleged in favour of a reconciliation with Amrut-Row, he placed, before the Peishwah's eyes, the absolute necessity of administering his government upon the principles most agreeable to his interests, and to the alliance which he had concluded with the British government.

772. The details of these operations are contained in our minutes, (Consultations 21st July, No. 103 to 107; 11th August, 40, 41; 25th August, 56 to 58; 2d November, 111, 112.)

773. His highness for a long time persisted in his first declaration of vengeance against Amrut-Row. However the resident, repeating his persuasions, finally obtained from his highness that the settlement of his disputes with Amrut-Row should be confided to the British government, and that he might rely with confidence on the regard it would have to the Peishwah's interests in the accommodation which it might judge advisable to be concluded with Amrut-Row.

774. For the details of the resident's correspondence with the court of Poonah on this subject, the Governor-general refers your honourable

committee to the papers mentioned in the Consultations 2d November, No. 155 to 157; 2d April, 133, 146, 251.

775. The least important points which were at this period agitated at the court of the Peishwah, relating to operations of the war, are reported in the letters of the resident at Poonah. (Consultations 21st July, 11th and 25th August, and 8th September.

776. Whilst negotiations were proceeding between the honourable Major-general Wellesley and the resident at Poonah, on the subject of the reconciliation of the Peishwah and Amrut-Row; Major-general Wellesley continued his correspondence with Amrut-Row, and pressed him to abandon the cause of his highness's enemies, and unite his interests with those of the Peishwah. As, however, every attempt to bring his highness the Peishwah to consent to enter into an accommodation, which would assure the fidelity of Amrut-Row, had been hitherto of no effect; the major-general saw himself necessitated to contract engagements with Amrut-Row, without waiting for the consent of the Peishwah's previous co-operations; consequently, on the 16th July, Major-general Wellesley wrote a letter to Amrut-Row, wherein he promised, in general terms, to manage its accommodation, on the condition that he should continue to conduct himself to the satisfaction of the British government; and on the 24th August, Major-general Wellesley entered into an engagement with the vakeel of Amrut-Row, to secure to that chief an annual sum of seven lacs of rupees, upon the condition that he should sincerely join the British government as well as the Peishwah, and that his troops should immediately unite with Major-general Wellesley. Major-general Wellesley also engaged to take care of the interests of Amrut-Row's friends and adherents.

777. Major-general Wellesley had not received, from Amrut-Row,

the confirmation of the engagements agreed upon, with his vakeel, before the month of October, when the latter presented him with a new demand, relating to the pay of a corps of ten thousand men, which he stated to be under Amrut-Row's command. General Wellesley having successfully combated a demand so exorbitant, agreed to take only, into the pay of the British government, those of his troops who should actually join his army with Amrut-Row, and to include them in the five thousand men which the British government, agreeably to the additional modification of the treaty of Bassen, of which mention will be made below, had engaged to defray. Amrut-Row joined General Wellesley on the 12th November, and continued to act with the British troops to the close of the war, wholly to the general's satisfaction. (Consultations 2d March, No. 353, 354, 376.)

778. No sooner had the resident at Poonah learnt the news of the commencement of hostilities, than he demanded of his highness that his vakeel should be recalled from the confederate camp, to which the Peishwah, after some hesitation, assented, and also declared his intention of, immediately, levying troops for the defence of his capital.

779. Your honorable committee will have seen, in the preceding part of the dispatch, what was the intention of the Governor-general in regard to the province of Bundelcund. The views of the Governor-general in respect to that province, were essentially seconded, and the means of terminating the affairs, in that part of the country, speedily and amicably, were materially facilitated by the proposal which the Peishwah had made to the resident at Poonah, in the month of August 1803 (Consultations 8th September, No. 41) in a conference between the resident and his highness's ministers, at the beginning of the month in question. These last having several times repeated and given assurance that his highness's pecuniary affairs were in a state of



distress, such as rendered it impossible for him to perform the engagements whereby he was to furnish a corps of cavalry to act with the British troops in this war, Colonel Close pointed them out the means by which the Peishwah could add to the resources of the British government, without any prejudice to his own. The resident observed, that, by the cession of Bundelcund, whence the court of Poonah had for many years derived no revenue, as a part of that province to the British government, his highness might preserve the districts situate on the southern part of his states, which had been ceded by the treaty of Bassein ; and, at the same time, obtain a regiment of cavalry to augment the auxiliary forces. The ministers declared that his highness would willingly consent to the cession of part of Bundelcund, on the conditions which they communicated to the resident ; and they promised to communicate the Peishwah's determination on the subject, without loss of time.

780. On the 13th August the resident received, from the Peishwah's minister, a proposal founded on the above-mentioned observation of the resident. (Consultations 8th September, No. 53, 54.) His highness's proposition contained the following articles :

- 1st. That the territory ceded in the southern part of his highness's state, valued at sixteen lacs of rupees per annum, should revert to his highness's power.
- 2d. That the district of Colpar, near Surat, valued at three lacs and sixteen thousand rupees per annum, should be also restored to his highness, for the purpose of returning it to its first possessor, Vittull-Sook-Deo, an old and faithful adherent of the Peishwah, to whom his highness intended to confide the command of the troops which should be levied to co-operate in the defence of the city of Poonah.

- 3d. That a regiment of native cavalry of the same strength as those attached to the auxiliary forces at Hyderabad, should be added to the auxiliary forces at Poonah.
- 4th. That the military force which the Peishwah was to furnish in time of war, should be reduced to 5000 horse and 3000 foot; that, however, his highness should, in addition, furnish a large body of cavalry and infantry, if his means would permit.
- 5th. That the British government should keep up a corps of 5000 Mahratta horse during the war, including therein, that which was serving in General Wellesley's army, under the immediate command of Ghatka, and Appa-Desfaye, and that this corps of cavalry should continue to be at the Peishwah's charge.
- 6th. That the Peishwah should cede, in perpetuity, to the honorable company, in the province of Bundelcund, a territory bringing in a revenue of 3 lacs and 16,000 rupees per annum, in the following manner.
  - 1st. In exchange for the part of the Peishwah's states, ceded in the south, and mentioned in the first article; a territory equal to the value of an annual revenue of 16 lacs of rupees.
  - 2d. In exchange for the district of Colpar, mentioned in the 2d article,\* a territory equivalent to an annual revenue of 3 lacs and 66,000 rupees.
  - 3d. For the acquittance of the pay and expences of a regiment of cavalry, mentioned in the 3d article, a territory bringing in an annual revenue of 7 lacs and 50,000 rupees.
  - 4th. As an equivalent for the expense which the government would be at in paying and supporting, during the present

\* The article referred to, says 3 lacs and 16,000 instead of 3 lacs and 66,000.

war, the 5,000 Mahratta cavalry, mentioned in the 4th article, a territory equivalent to an annual revenue of 5 lacs of rupees.

5th. As an indemnity for the extraordinary expenses the British government must incur to establish and maintain its authority in Bundelcund, a territory equal to the annual value of 4 lacs of rupees. All the territory ceded in Bundelcund, must be taken in that part of the province nearest to the English possessions, and in all cases the most convenient for the British government.

781. The Peishwah's minister declared that his highness's motives in making this proposition, were, in deference to the desire of the Governor-general, to show his fidelity in completing his engagements, and to preserve, to himself, the means of rewarding Vittul-Sook-Deo the most faithful of his adherents.

782. The resident answered, that he should regard this proposition, in its actual form, as obligatory on the court of Poonah, as giving to the Governor-general the right to put it in execution, in case it should be approved of by his excellency, immediately, and without waiting for a formal arrangement. This proposal was accepted by the Peishwah's minister in his highness's name. (Consultations 8th September, No. 53.)

783. The Governor-general was of opinion, that the conditions of this offer, with the exception of the article relating to the retrocession of Colpar, which it was advantageous to keep on account of its contiguity to the town of Surat, were extremely beneficial to the British government.

784. The Peishwah's proposition appeared also to give satisfactory

proofs of the disposition his highness had to adhere sincerely to the principles and spirit of the engagements which he had contracted with the honorable Company.

785. The Governor-general consequently signified to Colonel Clive his assent to the clauses in question, as well as his determination to carry them immediately into execution, in all that related to the province of Bundelcund. The resident was ordered to use his endeavours to prevail on the Peishwah to relinquish his demand, concerning the retrocession of Colpar; but as the possession of this district, supposing that it was devolved to the company, was considered by the Governor-general as of inferior importance, comparatively to the general advantages of the proposed arrangement, the resident was authorised, in case the Peishwah and Vittul-Sook-Deo were inflexible, in regard to the retrocession of Colpar, not to press them on this point, and to conclude, without further reference to the Governor-general, supplementary articles to the treaty of Bassein, on the basis of the Peishwah's propositions.

786. The resident was soon afterwards charged to urge his highness (Consultations 2nd of November, No. 150, A.) and obtain from him orders to his officers in Bundelcund, for the purpose of replacing under the British authority the districts which his highness had ceded to the company; it was also further recommended to him, to require the Peishwah Shumshair-Behauder, to abstain from every opposition to the measures which the British government might employ, to establish the company's authority in the districts of Bundelcund, ceded by the Peishwah. (Consultations, 2d November, No. 165, 172 to 175.) On the 8th October, the resident at Poonah received an order from the Peishwah, addressed to the Man of Business of the late Allee-Behauder, in Bundelcund, purporting, that the districts giving an annual revenue of 36,16,000 rupees should be united to the British government. The



original order was immediately transmitted to the agent of the commander in chief, in Bundelcund.

787. The resident at Poonah, seeing that all his endeavors to persuade Vittul-Sook-Deo, to accept an indemnity equivalent to the district of Colpar, were unsuccessful (Consultations, 2nd November, No. 112, 175.) occupied himself in regulating the supplementary articles to the treaty of Bassein, on the basis of the Peishwah's original proposition. These articles were signed at Poonah, on the 7th December, without any essential change in the Peishwah's propositions, and formally ratified by the Governor-general on the 7th January, (Consultations 2nd December, No. 151 D. 151 E.) The negotiations which preceded the effective execution of the additional articles of the treaty, are in the dispatches of the resident at Poonah, of which mention is made in the minutes 2nd April, No. 146, 147, 151 A to 151 G.

788. The events which occurred at the court of Poonah, from the time that the honourable Major-general Wellesley quitted that city on the 4th June, 1803, to the conclusion of the peace with the confederates, are detailed in the correspondence, with the resident at Poonah, cited in the minutes 21st July, 1803, 11th August, 8th September, 2nd November, and 2nd April.

789. All the other events with the exception of those before related in the 766th paragraph of this dispatch, are not of such importance as to be laid before your honourable committee. The Governor-general, consequently, thinks it sufficient to point out to your honourable committee, the references above noted, to make it acquainted with those points which are not particularly specified in this dispatch.

790. The Governor has now developed, in this dispatch, all the events relative to the origin and conduct of the late war, except the

operations of the army, a detailed report of which has been regularly transmitted to your honorable committee, from the commencement of hostilities until the conclusion of the peace.

791. Neither has the Governor-general comprised in this dispatch, the detail of the arrangements relative to the Treaties of Peace, concluded with Dowlut-Row-Scindeah, and the rajah of Berar, the Governor-general having thought proper to address to your honorable committee a separate dispatch on that important subject.

We have the Honor to be,

Honorable Sirs,

Your very faithful and obedient Servants,

(Signed)

WELLESLEY,  
G. H. BARLOW,  
G. UDNY.

(For Faithful Translation,)

C. BERONY, Interpreting Secretary to the Captain General.

*Fort William,*

12th April, 1804.

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